

## Winter time on Oct. 6

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will switch back to winter time on Friday, Oct. 6, according to an official communiqué issued by Prime Minister Shari' Zaid Ibn Shaker Sunday. The hands of clocks will be turned back 60 minutes at midnight Thursday Oct. 5 to run two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Jordan switched to summer time May 8, 1989, as part of a national drive to conserve energy and reduce the country's fuel import bill. It has been estimated that by adopting summer time Jordan will save one hour of energy a day consumed for lighting by reducing the need for artificial light during the evening. This means a 20 per cent saving in energy or JD 2 million in hard currency.

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## Jordan, South Yemen set up higher committee, sign series of agreements

# King, Attas voice absolute support for uprising

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and South Yemeni head of state Haider Abu Bakr Al Attas Sunday voiced their absolute backing for the 21-month-old Palestinian uprising and pledged continued commitment to collective Arab action to serve the Arab Nation's interests.

During a morning session of talks held at the Royal Court with Attas and attended by official delegations from both sides, King Hussein described the intifada as a "heroic battle" waged by the Palestinian people against occupation forces.

"Only a just and comprehensive solution can be acceptable to the coming generations," said the King.

King Hussein said the ongoing civil war in Lebanon had serious consequences on the Arab Nation's security. He paid tribute to the Arab League for reviving its tripartite committee to find a peaceful settlement in Lebanon.

King Hussein expressed hope that the current negotiations to bring permanent peace between Iraq and Iran would be crowned with success.

Referring to the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) grouping: Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and North Yemen, King Hussein said his

directives to the government call for serious action to pave the ground for full cooperation with South Yemen stemming from the Kingdom's belief that the ACC was established to serve all the Arab states.

Attas echoed the King's backing for the Palestinian people, describing the uprising as the most proper step towards the achievement of the aspired national goals. Attas said South Yemen was looking forward to further bilateral coordination in all fields.

The King and Attas reviewed scopes of cooperation in agriculture, industry, education and culture. Attas extended an invitation to King Hussein to visit South Yemen. The King accepted the invitation, for which a date is yet to be fixed.

Attending the talks were Prime Minister Shari' Zaid Ibn Shaker, Royal Court Chief Mndar Badran, King Hussein's Political

Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayoub, Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Inan, Minister of Agriculture Bassam Al Saket and Jordan's Ambassador to South Yemen Saad Al Bataineh. The Yemeni side included ministers of foreign affairs, industry, supply, agriculture and planning and South Yemen's ambassador to Jordan.

Later in the day, Attas and the accompanying delegation visited the Martyr's Monument, and the Al Hussein Medical Centre.

The South Yemeni delegation also visited the tomb of the

## King, Attas attend banquet

King Hussein and President Attas attended the banquet which Prime Minister Shari' Zaid held Sunday night at his residence in honour of the South Yemeni president. The banquet was also attended by the delegation accompanying President Attas and high ranking ministers and Jordanian officials.



His Majesty King Hussein and South Yemeni leader Haider Abu Bakr Al Attas Sunday chair talks on bilateral relations and pan-Arab issues (Petra photo)

founder of Jordan, King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein.

Attas and the delegation later paid a visit to the Jordan Valley, where they were received by the water and irrigation minister, the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) secretary general and Water Authority of Jordan's secretary general.

JVA Secretary General Mohammad Bani Hani presented a briefing on the integrated development programmes being carried out by the JVA in the valley.

## Higher committee to be formed

Jordan and South Yemen agreed Sunday to create a joint cooperation committee which will include senior officials from both countries, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

Petra said the Joint Jordanian-South Yemeni Higher Committee

will be responsible for developing and promoting cooperation between both countries.

It will also follow up and implement agreements between Jordan and South Yemen, it said.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Qasem and his Yemeni counterpart, Abdul Aziz Al Dali, signed the agreement.

The joint committee would include top officials from both sides who will meet annually. Jordan has similar committees with many other countries.

## Other agreements

Meanwhile, a number of agreements were signed by Jordanian and South Yemeni ministers and senior officials providing for cooperation in economic, commercial, technical, scientific, cultural health, agricultural, cultural and informational fields.

An agreement on economic, scientific and technical coopera-

tion aims at encouraging public and private organisations to exchange expertise, visits by officials training at different educational institutions and promoting cultural cooperation. An agreement on trade aims at increasing the volume of exchanged goods and cooperation in export/import areas as well as setting up trade fairs to promote the sale of national products.

Both agreements were signed by Minister of Industry and Trade Inan and his South Yemeni counterpart Abdullah Othman.

Protocols signed at the ceremony held at the Ministry of Industry and Trade covered provisions for cooperation in health matters, primary health care, studies in medical and health services, and cooperation in international conferences and scholarships as well as providing medical care for the nationals from Jordan and South Yemen at hospitals in either country.

## Troops kill 19-year-old Palestinian in Nablus

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers fatally shot a 19-year-old Palestinian allegedly lunging to hurl a firebomb at them Sunday in Nablus, the military command said. Six Palestinian protesters were wounded in ensuing clashes in the West Bank city.

Also in Nablus, a lone attacker stabbed to death an Arab accused by Palestinians of working with Israeli intelligence, Arab reports said.

Police, meanwhile, questioned a Palestinian man from the occupied territories suspected of stabbing an Israeli bus driver in an attempt to force a passenger bus off the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway and into a ravine.

The attempt Saturday night occurred as the Jerusalem-bound bus was 12 kilometres from the city, near where a Palestinian forced a bus off a cliff on July 6, killing 16 people.

Another disaster was prevented by several elderly passengers who grabbed the assailant and beat him, witnesses said.

Police said two policemen happened to be driving behind the bus, noticed there was trouble and rescued the suspect from passengers who were beating him. The suspect suffered "super-

ficial beating injuries," a hospital spokesman said.

Police refused to give the suspect's name, but said he lived in the occupied territories. Newspapers said he was a 26-year-old from the area of Ramallah in the West Bank.

Sunday's protests in the occupied West Bank's largest city, Nablus, erupted shortly after soldiers lifted a week-long curfew that confined the city's 120,000 residents to their homes.

A group of youths showered a military patrol with stones, an army spokesman said.

Then, he added, "two youths were seen lighting a firebomb, and then the patrol commander shot the person as he was about to throw it at them."

Officials at the city's Anglican Hospital said the victim, Samir Mohammad Rameh, 19, died of a gunshot wound to the head.

The army immediately reimposed the curfew saying it would only be lifted Monday morning.

Last Saturday there were angry demonstrations in Nablus after troops shot two Palestinians in a pre-dawn raid on a house in the city's Rahdiah district. A 14-year-old Arab girl was killed in the clashes.

Palestinians marked the begin-

ning of the 22nd month of their uprising Saturday with street protests and a petrol bomb attack on a policeman.

Troops shot and wounded 14 Arabs during clashes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip Saturday.

An Israeli policeman was in intensive care in hospital after a firebomb hit his car in Arab Jerusalem.

In the West Bank town of Qalqiya masked attackers shot dead Yousef Mohammad Milhem, secretary of the Israeli-appointed municipal council, sources said.

Underground leaders of the uprising have repeatedly warned Israeli-installed officials to quit or face punishment as collaborators. Palestinians said Milhem had survived previous attacks.

At least 634 Palestinians have died in the uprising.

Israeli cabinet ministers have urged top military commanders to talk less to the press, claiming too much was being published about the army, the Magid daily reported Sunday.

A military source confirmed that leading generals held a discussion about restricting information to the news media, but he said no new instructions or orders were given.



An Israeli soldier inspects the identity papers of a Palestinian in occupied Jerusalem

## Skirmishes continue in Beirut; Aoun attacks U.S.

BEIRUT (AP) — Rival forces battled with artillery and rockets Sunday and army chief Michel Aoun, deepening a rift with the United States, charged that Washington does not have the courage "to confront terrorism."

Police said one person was killed and seven were wounded in the shelling and in gunbattles across Beirut's dividing green line and the mountains overlooking the capital.

That raised the casualty toll since fighting erupted between Aoun's forces and Syrian troops and allied militiamen March 8 to at least 834 killed and 2,481 wounded.

Police said Syrians guns opened up before dawn on ships trying to run a six-month-old blockade of the Christian enclave north of Beirut.

The Syrians apparently suspected the vessels were carrying arms and supplies for Aoun.

Aoun's gunners responded with howitzer barrages against Syrian artillery batteries along the seaside 'Ain Mreissieh boulevard in west Beirut.

Beirut newspapers quoted Aoun as saying in an interview

with the U.S. NBC television network that President George Bush's U.S. administration of doing nothing to curb the Syrians' actions in Lebanon.

"America practices the policy of bowing to Syria's influence in Lebanon... and is giving Syria the opportunity to annex Lebanon," Aoun declared.

"We ask the United States not to support Syria's occupation of Lebanon," he said.

Aoun has repeatedly accused the Americans of selling out to Syria. Christian leaders believe that one of the factors in Washington's failure to take action to curb Syrian shelling for fear of harming eight Americans held hostage by Iranian-backed groups.

Syria has pledged to help free the American captives who are among 16 Westerners missing in Lebanon. Most are held by Shi'ite factions.

Aoun was quoted as telling NBC: "America does not have enough courage to confront terrorism."

"It's certain that Americans will become the target for increased attacks all over the world

because the American government is making concessions to the terrorists," he said.

Aoun described the U.S. embassy in east Beirut as an "espionage network" but offered the guarantee the security for the 30 diplomats evacuated from the heavily fortified embassy compound last Wednesday.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler blamed the evacuation on Aoun after about 1,000 of his supporters besieged the embassy demanding U.S. action against Syria.

Tutwiler accused Aoun of having threatened to take 20 Americans hostage.

Aoun has denied the allegations and called on the United States to send its diplomats back.

The withdrawal of Ambassador John McCarthy and his team marked the first time the Americans have closed their Beirut embassy since the civil war erupted in 1975.

Beirut newspapers quoted Aoun as saying in another interview with the Italian daily Avvenire that he would personally guarantee the safety of Pope John Paul II if he visits Lebanon.

## Talks continue with London Club

AMMAN (J.T.) — Talks between the government and the London Club of creditor banks continued Sunday, officials said. No official statement was issued until Jordan Times press time and no senior official could be reached for comment on the talks. Jordan is seeking to reschedule debt repayments to the London Club for the years 1989 and 1990. Finance Minister Bassel Jarrah said last week the amount involved was \$450 million, out of a total of \$1.2 billion. The Kingdom is hoping to defer the 1989 and 1990 repayment instalments by 10 years with a grace period of five years, the minister said.

## Crown Prince in Washington

WASHINGTON (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, accompanied by her Highness Princess Sarwat, arrived in Washington Sunday for a working visit to the United States.

During the visit, the Crown Prince will meet with President George Bush, Vice-President Dan Quayle, Secretary of State James Baker and other senior American officials to discuss bilateral relations and issues of common interest.

The Crown Prince will also attend meetings in several institutions and universities in

Washington and other American cities.

The Crown Prince will be joined by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Marwan Al Qasem and Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz.

Receiving the Jordanian delegation at Andrews Air Base were the dean and members of the accredited Arab diplomatic corps, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly, the U.S. ambassador to Jordan and his Jordanian counterpart as well as the representative of the Arab League in Washington and other senior American officials.

## Israeli soldier killed in Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — An Israeli soldier was killed in a battle with resistance forces in Lebanon Sunday and a Palestinian group claimed responsibility for the attack, in which a resistance fighter was also shot dead.

Israel Radio said the firefight occurred just inside Lebanon at the tip of the occupied Golan Heights.

It was the third clash with guerrillas involving Israeli forces or their Lebanese militia allies in the last 10 days. The gunfights marked an overall escalation in tensions along the border, including several rocket attacks.

A spokesman for Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) said a guerrilla group clashed with an Israeli patrol in the area of Mount Hermon near the Lebanese-Israeli border Saturday night.

Initial information, the spokesman said, indicated that one guerrilla was killed and "the enemy suffered several losses in the firefight."

Saturday's border clash was the eighth this year and came hours after Soviet-designed Katyusha

rockets slammed into an Israeli-policed South Lebanon "security zone."

The Lebanese National Resistance Front, a coalition of leftist and Palestinian guerrilla groups including the PFLP, also claimed responsibility.

The PFLP, headed by George Bush, is part of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and backs PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's peace initiative towards Israel.

The PFLP and other groups within the resistance front maintain bases in the Bekaa Valley in east Lebanon.

The front said the attack marked its seventh anniversary and was also to avenge Israel's abduction of Hizbollah cleric Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid July 28.

The front, which has previously mounted joint operations with the PFLP, said in a statement it also launched attacks against positions inside Israel's "security zone."

It vowed "to continue fighting until the last Israeli soldier is expelled from our land."

## Algerian premier steps down after row

ALGIERS (R) — Algerian Prime Minister Kasdi Merbah stepped down under protest Sunday, dismissed by President Chadli Benjedid apparently for failing to speed the pace of reform.

A source close to Merbah, who initially refused to resign when ordered to do so Saturday, said the former prime minister had agreed to leave office but still contested the constitutionality of his dismissal.

Benjedid replaced Merbah with a key presidential adviser and reformist ally in his ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), Mouloud Hamrouche, formerly chief of presidential staff.

Political observers linked the move to Benjedid's frustration at the slow implementation of sweeping political and economic reforms he launched after youth riots swept the country last October.

The state-run Algerian news agency APS Sunday lashed out at Merbah, who said Saturday the president did not have the constitutional power to fire him without national assembly backing.

"In refusing to conform to the constitutional decision of the president, putting an end to his functions, is Kasdi Merbah trying to make himself an alternative to the supreme magistrate?" an APS commentary asked.

It said the constitution gave the president clear powers to name and fire prime ministers, an interpretation shared by an independent jurist contacted by Reuters.

Diplomats said it remained unclear how much support Merbah could rally within the FLN, which holds an extraordinary congress next month expected to see a showdown between conservatives and party reformists led by Benjedid.

But they added there was

little Merbah could do until the national assembly reconvened late this month after its summer break.

Hamrouche, 47, a close protégé of Benjedid's since he became president in 1979, would announce his government later in the week, a political source said.

Benjedid has told Hamrouche to quickly and thoroughly implement reforms designed to transform Algeria from a one-party socialist state to a democracy.

Hamrouche will also have to grapple with an economic crisis that erupted during summer in numerous strikes and protests at lack of water and housing.

Heavily in debt to foreign banks, Algeria's economy suffers high inflation, unemployment and low productivity. Shortages of consumer goods are common.

Merbah, in a statement late Saturday, defended his record and said he had not had the full support of either the FLN, the press or the main trade union, Union Generale des Travailleurs Algeriens.

"I absolutely do not understand the decision that has been taken," he said. "I took in hand a catastrophic situation, controlled it and improved it."

A Western diplomat said clear differences had emerged last spring between Merbah and Benjedid over reform legislation, with Merbah generally taking a more restrictive view.

But he said the biggest obstacle to quick passage of laws on political parties, press freedom and multi-party elections was the 295-seat national assembly, dominated by old guard FLN elements threatened by change.

There was no immediate comment from nascent opposition parties. Algerian state newspapers Sunday hailed the move as giving a new push to a flagging reform drive.

## Peres praises Mubarak initiative

TEL AVIV (R) — Vice Premier Shimon Peres Sunday welcomed Egyptian proposals on Palestinian elections, saying they were close to Israel's own ideas.

In a move likely to heighten tension in Israel's coalition government, Peres gave qualified approval of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's 10 election points which parallel demands of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"The (Mubarak) plan addresses for the most part the character of the elections, and on most of the points I don't think there is much difference of opinion," the Labour Party leader told Israel radio.

Last April Israel unveiled an initiative calling on Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to elect delegates to negotiations on interim self-rule.

No Arab party has accepted the plan in its current form. Hardline Prime Minister Yitzhak

Shamir has refused to discuss details of the initiative until it is accepted in principle by the Palestinians or Arab states.

Peres said he favoured key points in the Egyptian plan — allowing 140,000 Arab Jerusalem Palestinians to vote, honouring results of the elections and granting freedom of political activity to those elected.

Egypt is trying to advance the plan, deadlocked over a PLO demand that peace talks include Palestinians from outside the occupied territories.

Israel refuses to deal with the PLO and insists on including only local Palestinians, though Labour Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said he would accept Palestinian advisers from abroad.

Mubarak said Saturday PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat would visit Cairo soon to discuss the Egyptian points.

Despite Shamir's assertion that Israel will not discuss details of its

plan before Arab acceptance, Peres said:

"If it's possible to enter negotiations on the character of the elections with a Palestinian delegation and an Israeli delegation, that is definitely a positive thing."

The two leaders sparred last week.

Political analysts said the root of the argument was Peres's frustration at his declining role in Israeli diplomacy.

"Many observers view Peres's actions primarily as a fight to retain the leadership of the party. An increasingly large number of members are regarding Rabin as the true leader," a political commentator for the Jerusalem Post said Sunday.

"They also suggest that Peres may not be interested in promoting the political initiative... because Shamir and Rabin will get all the glory if the initiative succeeds."



## MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

**Water Melon** 200 /



**NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF**

**ACCORD WITH ITALY:** The Cabinet has endorsed the final form of an economic and technical cooperation agreement with Italy and has entrusted the planning minister to sign it. (Petra)

**JUDICIAL PANELS:** The Judicial Council has approved a recommendation made by Justice Minister Rafeh Al Wazni to set up special committees to draw up the draft laws on justice. The committees include one for legal proceedings, another for the penal code and a third for the evidence and notary public codes. (Petra)

**NARCOTICS TALKS IN VIENNA:** Colonel Hashem Al Qaisi, director of the Amman-based Arab Anti-Narcotics Office, left Sunday for Vienna to take part in a meeting by heads of national organisations charged with the application of laws and regulations on controlling drug trafficking and narcotics. The United Nations-sponsored meeting, which opens Monday, is scheduled to discuss questions relating to the most up-to-date methods to combat narcotics regionally and internationally through international agreements and the application of the 1988 agreement in this respect.

**BOYCOTT LIST:** The finance minister has decided to blacklist 65 foreign companies because of their dealing with Israel. The minister also lifted his imposed on 32 foreign companies.

**MADABA ELECTIONS:** Nearly 15,078 voters will Monday take part in municipal elections in Madaba to choose nine members for the municipal council, which has a four-year mandate. Madaba District Governor Mislch Tarawneh said that separate polling stations for males and females have been opened for the election, which begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m. A total of 23 candidates are running for the new council.

**STREET NAMED IN AQABA:** Aqaba Municipality announced Sunday it had completed the process of numbering and naming the main side streets and public gardens in the city. It said the second stage of work which has just started entails numbering the commercial areas.

**CLINICS OPENED:** The Health Ministry announced Sunday that it had opened two dental clinics and a health centre at Qatranah south of Amman. The new addition raised to six the number of clinics that provide health services to the Karak area.

**DRUG OFFENDER SENTENCED:** The military governor has ended the military court's verdict sentencing Fayez Bassam Abdul Hamid Al Nabhan to four years in prison and a fine of JD 3,500 after finding him guilty of acquisition of hashish. (Petra)

**EGYPTIAN BOOK EXHIBITION:** The third Egyptian Book Exhibition was opened Saturday in Salt. The week-long exhibition includes references in the field of history, geography, population, economy, commerce and literature as well as children's books. (Petra)

**VOTING IN AJLOUN:** Ajloun District Governor Mohammad Aidi Saturday chaired a meeting designed to facilitate the arrival of voters to polling centres. During the meeting thirty polling centres were assigned to help casting of votes for the upcoming parliamentary election. (Petra)

**Committee seeks lower housing cost**

AMMAN (Petra) — A social services sectoral committee affiliated to the Amman Region Development Council Sunday released a set of recommendations included in a report on the housing prospects within the Amman Governorate.

The report which was compiled following field tours of different areas by teams appointed by the Council for the task, recommended that a survey to sound beneficiaries' views about the nature and size of housing units should be conducted before any project can be implemented.

The report criticised the present arrangement under which a beneficiary end up paying almost double the cost of the unit at the end of the instalment programme.

It said that the cost of housing units should be lowered to the minimum especially for limited income groups.

The report voiced the committee's recommendation to the housing corporation to find out why the Sahab housing estate is not fully occupied following seven years after its construction.

The report said that Jordanians seem to shun living in housing blocks in outlying areas because of the lack of sewerage network, children's playgrounds, proper streets and the high cost of the units.

The committee recommended that a period of time given for the repayment of housing loans should be extended to suit limited-income groups and that loans should be made available to such groups for purchasing land to set up their own homes.

The report urged the municipal authorities within the Amman area to define the size and nature of land to be assigned for housing projects and proposed that state-owned land be developed to absorb further housing estates.

**WHAT'S GOING ON**

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

**EXHIBITIONS**

- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artists Khaled Ghawamneh and Abdullah Kamaleh, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Maseri at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ An anti-smoking exhibition which includes paintings and posters showing the harmful effects of smoking, at Philadelphia Hotel.

**FILM**

- ★ A French film entitled "Le Voleur de Crème" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

**PETRA CULTURAL FESTIVAL**

**EXHIBITIONS**

- ★ Handicrafts exhibition, which includes sculptures, embroidery, sand ornaments and woodwork, at the Tourism Square.
- ★ The National Heritage Exhibition, which includes knitwear, textiles and simple agricultural tools used locally, at the Tourism Square.
- ★ The Archaeological Treasures of the Sahara Exhibition inside the old city of Petra.
- ★ A photo exhibition on Petra inside the old city of Petra.
- ★ The Armed Forces Exhibition, including photos and posters depicting the armed forces development.
- ★ A comprehensive art exhibition, held by the University of Jordan, includes paintings, photos and sculptures at the Visitors Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of oriental artifacts and folkloric costumes at the Tourism Square.

**LECTURE**

- ★ A lecture, in Arabic, entitled "Parliamentary Life in Jordan" by Dr. Ghazi Rahab 'a — 3:00 p.m.

**POETRY RECITAL**

- ★ Poetry recital by Jordanian poets Majed Majall, Basel Rahay'a, Mustafa Na'ama and Ismail Salama — 4:30 p.m.

**SHOWS**

- ★ Concerts by Jordanian lute player Abdul Mahdi Hammad, the Aqaba Youth Centre Troupe and by Radio Jordan Orchestra at Al Hareth Theatre — 8:30 p.m.



Minister of Transport and Telecommunication Hikmat Al Khammash, his Syrian counterpart Youssef Al Ahmad and their accompanying delegations Monday held talks in Amman (Petra photo).

**Jordan prepares to mark Prophet Mohammad's Birthday anniversary**

AMMAN (Petra) — A national committee organising celebrations for the Prophet Mohammad's Birthday anniversary announced Sunday that major celebrations will be held in the Kingdom on Oct. 11 on the eve of the anniversary.

The committee, which is chaired by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, said that the main celebrations will be held at the Palace of Culture in Al Hussein Youth City, the Hussein Mosque, downtown Amman, and the King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Mosque in Abdali district.

The statement was made following a committee meeting

chaired by the minister who stated afterwards that the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries have decided at their recent meeting in Baghdad to jointly hold celebrations on the holy occasion.

A special celebration on the coming anniversary will be organised in Cairo at the invitation of the Egyptian government and with the participation of all Awqaf ministers in the ACC states, Khayyat noted.

According to Khayyat, the committee has decided to set up a number of Islamic book exhibitions in various provinces and to involve various public and private sectors in the celebrations.

It called on various organisations to contribute to the celebrations and urged the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) to distribute financial and in-kind gifts to needy families. He said special cultural and religious competitions will be organised, with the major event taking place at the University of Jordan.

Apart from the minister and the ministry's Secretary General Ahmad Hilayel, the meeting was attended by representatives of ministries of Awqaf, Information and Interior as well as Amman Municipality, the Armed Forces and the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

**Jordan to attend Arab industrial development talks in Damascus**

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is to take part in the fourth meeting by a ministerial committee on industrial development due to open in Damascus Tuesday.

The committee, which groups ministers of industry in Jordan, Syria, Tunisia and Algeria will discuss arrangements and preparations for a seventh ministerial meeting by the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) which is scheduled to open on Oct. 25, and the organisation's board meeting which will be held at the same time.

Jordan will be represented at the meeting by a delegation led by Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Imanab who will leave for the Syrian capital Monday.

A delegation, including the director of industry and other officials, has already left for Damascus for preparatory meetings.

Meanwhile, a responsible official at the Ministry of Industry

and Trade Sunday issued a statement in which he expressed the ministry's frustration with a number of local industries and factories which, he said have been found to be marketing products which do not conform to specifications and measurements set by the Ministry of Industry.

The official said that the Ministry of Industry was forced to order the closure of five factories producing paint for a two-week period and a plant producing scent for one month; and has asked that the concerned factories withdraw their products from the local markets immediately.

The official said that the ministry was keen on providing consumers with high quality products so that the Jordanian citizens' confidence in national industry will increase and national products can have new markets abroad.

The official said that the ministry plans to continue maintaining

strict control and search campaign to ensure that the set of specifications for various industries are respected.

**Jordan, Syria discuss reviving Hijaz Railway line for land transport**

AMMAN (J.T.) — Launching a joint Jordanian-Syrian Maritime route and reactivating the Hijaz Railway line for land for land transport between Jordan and Syria were among the major topics for discussion between ministers of transport Hikmat Al Khammash of Jordan and Youssef Al Ahmad of Syria Sunday.

Bilateral cooperation in air transport and training of pilots and other relevant matters were also taken up at the meeting which was attended by delegation members on both sides.

According to the Syrian minister, transporting goods from the Far East to Aqaba by Sea and then carrying them by land to Syria by the joint Jordanian-Syrian Transport Company's fleet of trucks and vice versa was discussed in detail at the meeting.

He said that the two sides were putting the finishing touches to the scheme before putting it into force.

Khammash and Ahmad discussed the prospect of reactivating rail transport along the Hijaz Railway which connects Amman with Damascus. Ahmad said that

this too was fully discussed with the help of the technical sub-committee which had met earlier at the Syrian border town of Deraa.

Reactivating rail transport between the two sides will take place following procedural matters, the Syrian minister added. Ahmad noted that his visit to Jordan was to assess, with the Jordanian side, matters relevant to activities of the joint Land and Maritime Transport Companies, and the implementation of resolutions by the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee meetings about boosting transport activities.

Ahmad said that Syria and Jordan will boost their bilateral cooperation in air transport through training Syrian pilots in

Jordan civil aviation training institutes, providing maintenance to Syrian civilian aircraft at Royal Jordanian (RJ) workshops and cooperating in insurance matters for aircraft owned by the Syrian and Jordanian national airlines.

Earlier, the two ministers co-chaired a meeting for the general assembly of the Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport Company.

The company which was established in 1975 is a fruit of close cooperation between the two sides in transport affairs, Khammash said in an opening speech.

The company's fleet has transported 1.5 million tonnes of goods between Jordan and Syria and the rest of the world since 1986, according to a report released last February after a general assembly meeting in Damascus.

The current meeting is scheduled to discuss a report by the chairman of the board of directors on operations and future programmes, and will review the company's financial situation in the light of an end of year and final accounts report about 1988 operations.

**Assad leaves for Istanbul to open sixth Islamic-Christian dialogue**

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad left for Istanbul to open the sixth Islamic-Christian dialogue deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan who is currently in the United States.

The minister is accompanied by an official delegation whose members will also submit a working paper dealing with pluralism

in the holy Koran.

Assad will deliver a speech to the meeting, which is expected to be attended by 40 delegates from Switzerland, Turkey, Egypt, Greece, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Morocco, Lebanon, Pakistan, Tunisia as well as Jordan.

The meeting has been organised by the Royal Academy for Islamic Research, Al Al Bait

Foundation.

The fifth meeting of its kind was held in Switzerland last December when the concept of peace and justice in the Koran and the Bible was discussed along with the question of establishing justice worldwide, the role of religion in peace, human rights issues and racial discrimination, as well as Christian-Islamic coexistence throughout the ages.



**DIRECT CONTACT**

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- Deposit (cash or cheque) in any of your accounts or the account of another person.
- Demand to know the balance of your deposits and obtain a summarised account statement.
- Demand a detailed account statement.
- Pay electricity bills by debiting your accounts.
- Direct transfer of deposits from your account to others in any of the Arab Bank branches in Jordan.
- Request a cheque book.



The Arab Bank has lately installed an ATM at its branch in Jabal Hussein and the ATM service is now available at the following branches:

- King Faisal Street
- Shmeisani
- Baiader Wadi Seer
- Fifth Circle
- Jubeiha Office
- Marka
- Jabal Husssein
- Abdali
- Jordan Intercontinental Hotel
- Gardens Office
- Ashrafieh Office
- Zarqa
- Shafiq Irshaidat Off. (Irbid)

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**University gets 50 books**

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Centre for Agricultural Documentation Sunday presented the University of Jordan's Faculty of Agriculture with a gift of 50 books dealing with specialised studies covering the development of the Hammad Basin in eastern Jordan. Four Arab countries including Jordan are taking part in the development of the basin which is bordering on Iraq, Jordan, Syria and Saudi Arabia.

**852 graduate from VTC training centres**

AMMAN (Petra) — The Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) which is affiliated to the Ministry of Labour Sunday turned out 852 trainees who had taken courses in various trades at four training centres.

The centres at Yajouz, Sahab and Marka in the Amman Governorate and the Jordan Valley region trained the graduates in hotel management, dress-making, typing, retail marketing and bakery work and other trades, according to VTC Director General Burhan Al Shreideh, who attended the graduation ceremony at the Al Hussein Youth City's Palace of Culture.

Shreideh said that VTC, established in 1976, aims to organise vocational training for male and female trainees through short apprenticeship courses or three-year training programmes at its various centres around the

**Correction**

The Jordan Times apologises for erroneously carrying a story about French Culture and Youth Minister Lionel Jospin ending a visit to Jordan in its Sunday edition. The report should have read a French delegation ended a month-long stay to carry out archaeological work in Jordan. The Jordan Times regrets the error.



## Jordan Times

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## Balanced approach

IT IS certainly very good news that the government is contemplating amendments to the income tax law with a view to achieving a fairer distribution of tax burdens on citizens. The economic and fiscal hardships that the country has been experiencing of late have of course passed on to the people, especially the low income groups. The double digit inflationary rate in the Kingdom has made it imperative on the government to seek ways and means to ameliorate the conditions of the most affected among the Jordanian people. Lowering the rate of taxation on low income groups will of course help such groups cope with the new economic realities and the high cost of living that ensued thereafter. The question remains is whether such tax measures would be enough to alleviate the crisis that has hit Jordanians with fixed income.

Most probably this much-appreciated taxation amendment will not, by a long shot, be enough to rectify the anguish of many Jordanians who can ill-afford the current inflationary rate. The problem could even become more complicated if it ever becomes necessary to lift some of the current subsidies on some of the basic commodities.

It would seem sensible therefore to form an inter-departmental committee to examine this situation from all its angles and to submit thereafter some specific recommendations to resolve what is developing into an unbearable hardship. As things are, the incomes of the lower class in Jordan need to be augmented in one way or another. There are many who no longer can make ends meet and this emerging phenomenon will have social and other implications if left unattended to. There is already a rise in theft cases and before we know it the country could very well end up having a rise in other forms of felonies. That is why any agreement imposed on the country by international monetary institutions must be implemented with a human face. Otherwise the whole exercise will backfire and the end result could become more negative than positive.

In any case, this issue of how to alleviate the rising cost of living in Jordan is a complex one and clearly there is no singular simple and ideal solution. Most probably the answer lies in some balanced approach which can be best articulated by the proposed inter-governmental committee charged with this specific mandate.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

LOCAL Jordanian dailies Sunday discussed the intifada which has entered the 22nd month and the visit to Jordan by the South Yemeni president. Al Ra'i daily said that the full image of the Palestinian struggle has now reached the international community and the oppressed people have succeeded in winning sympathy and support of all nations. The paper cited an example to support this view by reporting that one of the American television networks presented one and half hour programme featuring various scenes from the occupied territories clearly manifesting the barbaric attitude of the Israeli troops. Needless to say Jordan was at the forefront of the supportive countries and a staunch backer of the PLO leadership in directing the uprising towards full liberation and the establishment of justice, the paper noted.

Jordan, added Al Ra'i, has become the target of Israel's reprisals in the form of media and propaganda campaigns against the Kingdom and its national economy as a result of Amman's open and unequivocal stand in support of the Palestinian people. The continuation of the uprising and its successes at all fronts can only increase Israel's isolation among world nations and can win further backing by peace loving nations, the paper said. Above all, it added, the intifada will remain the focal point in any joint Arab action towards re-establishing peace and security in the Middle East.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily launches a strong criticism against the leftist leaders in Lebanon who are waging a fratricidal war against Michael Aoun who heads a military government operating from east Beirut. Tareq Masarweh says that Jumblatt and his clique have been raising Iranian flags and issuing statements indicating that they are the only Arabs of Lebanon, meaning that Aoun and his faction are not. The writer also refers to statements by the leftists in which they had been implying that the Christians of the Arab World would be facing a similar siege like the one in east Beirut and they could face a similar tragedy. Masarweh says that other place in the Arab World is like Lebanon, and there can be no chance for any Christian in Arab countries to face a confrontation with his countrymen over sectarian or factional issues.

The writer urges Jumblatt and his group, who, he says, might be having hard times at present, to remain committed to Lebanon and its Arab character without taking an adverse course that could further cause deterioration in the situation. He also voices the Arab masses deep sympathy with the Lebanese people in view of their continuing tragedy.

Al Dustour daily described a visit here by the South Yemeni president as a new impetus to bolster Jordanian Yemeni relations on the one hand, and enhance joint Arab action on the other. The paper quoted the president as saying upon arrival that his country was keen on promoting cooperation with Jordan especially in economic, trade and cultural fields. The paper said that the visit was a good chance for the president to discuss with King Hussein a host of issues of concern to the two countries. It welcomed the South Yemeni leader in Jordan and said that his visit was bound to open a new chapter of fruitful cooperation between the two countries.

### Weekly Political Pulse

## Soviet reforms need speed adjustment

THERE are persistent fears that there is something wrong about the speed of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reformation policies. The extent of the dangers looming in the horizon of Soviet perestroika and glasnost, whether in the form of ethnic tremblings or heightened economic and political expectations suggest that the speed of change there is either too slow or too fast. But wrong it is. All the anxieties developing about the fate of President Gorbachev's future political fortunes have accelerated of late and ominously foretell probable setbacks in the era that was ushered by him few years ago. This may suggest that Soviet perestroika and glasnost have got to change speed to survive and then to triumph. Which way to turn is of course the biggest gamble of all.

The emerging honeymoon between Moscow and Washington and the rapid replacement of the East-West confrontation by the now fashionable North-South rivalries are but some of the fruits of the Soviet reformations. There is clearly a deep conviction within the Soviet Union that for its reforms to succeed against enemies from within and outside the country, Moscow needs a breathing space and a prolonged grace period to adjust to its new role as part of the Western heritage. And of course there is no better way to obtain a reprieve from the normal restraints and constraints that have haunted the Soviet foreign policies in its

relations with the Western world than to supersede that traditional confrontational style of policy and diplomacy with a new much more relaxed relations with its former arch enemy the U.S.

Who ever dreamt that the Soviet Union would offer to sell its latest military technologies, like the MiG 29, to Western nations? And who ever thought that Moscow and Washington would co-sponsor U.N. resolutions on a multitude of issues and conflicts including human rights subjects? This metamorphosis in the Soviet thinking is Moscow's way of reminding itself and the rest of the world that its civilisation and heritage are "western" first and foremost and that it now seeks to reestablish its links with its roots.

But the foes of this Soviet attempt to rediscover itself are many, which makes its present course fraught with formidable dangers. This may suggest that time is of the essence and that the Soviet experiment does not have all the time in the world to make new adjustments to new realities. This prompts one to suggest that for perestroika and glasnost to succeed, its speed must accelerate rather than slow down. With the genie out of the bottle there is simply no way Moscow can reverse itself. And to "slowdown" would only give its many enemies, lurking in the background, more space and time to regroup and strike again as they indeed did with former Soviet leader Khrushchev.

Yet such speeding up may offer Autocrats the higher-than-ever political and economic expectations, it will surely spell imminent danger to the ethnic problem in the Soviet empire. The Soviet Union has for all intents and purposes relinquished its former option to use crude force to quell ethnic demands for self-rule. It now must search for new accommodations with its many ethnic minorities, and time is not abundant. This search for new structures within the Soviet Union would require much ingenuity and foresightedness. Maybe the confederation idea could offer the best way out of the present dilemma of trying to reconcile what appears to be irreconcilable objectives. Still, to do just that would call for a confident and secure Moscow, something that has yet to happen. So it looks like there is a vicious circle in the dynamics of developments within the Soviet Union. The odds are still in favour of the Soviet reformation to bring about an end to the tortuous road that Moscow has got to take for a while at least. But President Gorbachev needs to speedup perestroika and glasnost as far as economic and political reformation, are concerned in order to start the process of healing wounds that will surely ensue from the mushrooming ethnic problem. The entire world has a stake in the success story of the new Soviet experiment or rather the new revolution. A speed Soviet perestroika and glasnost would deal a death blow to all other attempts to reform the other corners of the world.

## China's campaign to remould the young making little headway

By Andrew Roche  
Reporter

PEKING — "Without the Communist Party, there would be no new China," a long-haired singer screams to a hard rock rhythm, mocking the words of a party anthem and winning laughter from young people in a Peking nightclub.

In the three months since troops shot their way into the city to crush pro-democracy protests, the authorities have successfully maintained their grip on the streets and silenced open dissent with a wave of arrests.

But the third step in the crackdown — to remould the hearts and minds of the generation of young Chinese who led the protests — seems to be making little headway.

Students returning to their campuses for their autumn term have begun a tough regime of political classes stressing loyalty to the party and vilifying "bourgeois liberalism," Peking's codeword for Western political ideas.

The entire October intake of new students at Peking University, hotbed of the democracy movement, is to be sent to army academies for a year's political and military training before taking up their academic courses.

"For a time, our campuses and lecture stages have been flooded with fashionable theories and Western trends, attacking Marxism and the leadership of the Communist Party," a front-page editorial in the official Guangming daily said on Sept. 3.

"It is an extremely serious question whether we are training the heirs to the revolutionary cause, or the gravediggers of the revolutionary cause," it added.

The solution, the paper said, was to strengthen ideological and political education on campuses and make students "learn from peasants and workers" — an apparent reference to plans to send large numbers of graduates to work in rural areas.

"If this is done well... we can

turn our colleges into bases of socialist spiritual civilisation," it added.

One economics student described the sessions of ideological training, of up to 30 hours a week, as exhausting but futile exercises.

"We are not allowed to simply stay silent. Everyone has to publicly state their opinion of the unrest and the army action. So everyone says they support the government."

"The authorities know most of us are lying but what do they expect? Students have been shot and arrested."

"I never wanted to go abroad before, I had hope in the reforms," said another, a post-graduate student at Peking University. "No I just want to get out of China."

The numbers of young Chinese seeking to go abroad — including teachers, intellectuals and private entrepreneurs, as well as students — have reached epidemic proportions since the June crackdown.

Western consulates in China report a wave of applications for student visas. But even with money and a place at an overseas university it is not easy to leave.

Peking announced in July it would step up scrutiny of the political soundness of outgoing students. Some U.S.-based Chinese students who returned home to visit relatives in May and June say they were forced to write declarations of support for the government before being granted exit visas to leave again.

"They say the aim is to stop students absorbing bourgeois liberal ideas while they are abroad," one student said. "If so, why don't the leaders bring their own children home?"

The offspring of several senior politicians, including the son of party chief Jiang Zemin, are studying in the West.

"What they really want to do is punish people who took part in demonstrations," he added.

Students say close political control and an atmosphere of fear on campuses rule out any possibility of unrest in the near future.

## Qadhafi becomes internationalist

By Jonathan Wright  
Reporter

TRIPOLI — After failing to spread his message in the Arab World, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi is looking to Africa, Latin America and the Pacific as theatres where he might win fame as a revolutionary thinker.

On the 20th anniversary of his coup on Sept. 1 he pledged to support liberation movements and anti-American governments in Panama, Namibia, Nicaragua, New Caledonia, French Guyana, South Africa and the French Indian Ocean islands of Reunion and Mayotte.

The sole Arab cause he mentioned was Palestine and his anniversary audience only included eight of the 21 Arab heads of state.

His speech and one in Belgrade ignored inter-Arab rivalries and portrayed Qadhafi's revolution as an internationally valid model. He boasts that the United States and France acknowledge Libya's worldwide influence by objecting to Tripoli's support for

Panamanian strongman General Manuel Noriega and opposing Libyan activity against French interests in the South Pacific.

Libyan ideologist Ibrahim Abu Khazam told a news conference that Qadhafi's theories of "direct democracy" and "partners not wage slaves" would spread like Christianity, Islam and Marxism.

"The Jamahiriya (Libyan) model is the only one that can satisfy the masses," he said.

"Capitalism and traditional Socialism have failed so people were seeking a new system."

Like a prophet who had not found honour among his own Arab nation, Qadhafi was already finding a response in other parts of the Third World. Khazam, deputy speaker of the General People's Congress (parliament), said.

"Burkina Faso, for example, is a quasi-jamahiriyah," he added. The body responsible for spreading Qadhafi's ideas is the World Mathaba (meeting place), the Libyan version of Moscow's Comintern, founded in 1982.

The Mathaba appears to have

received a much larger budget this year to hold seminars, publish glossy revolutionary magazines and pay scholarships to Third World students of Qadhafi's green book at Tripoli's Green World Institute.

The first edition of its magazine, dated May 1989, supports "anti-imperialist" and movements in Namibia, Palestine, Grenada, Colombia, Honduras, and South Korea.

Ironically South Korean companies have been winning some of the biggest contracts in Libya.

A stereotype Arab nationalist when he took power in 1969, the new internationalist Qadhafi takes no clear stand between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and his Palestinian rivals, or between Syria and its Lebanese Christian opponents.

Ideologically Qadhafi is opposed to Arafat's policy of a small Palestinian state alongside Israel.

"Israel is bound to disappear, like the other relics of World War II," he said in his Sept. 1 speech.

Yet it was Arafat who sat

among the heads of the during the celebrations with his rivals, Ahmed Fihri and Ali Musa, who have been receiving Libyan financial support for almost six years, may not even have been in Tripoli.

Diplomats said Liba last month told Fihri, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, and Abu Musa, leader of the Fateh uprising group, if they could no longer expect hospitality without an invitation.

FLO sources said Libya had cut off the rebels completely.

But Western diplomats said any action against them would be a concession to Arafat than a rebuke to their ally Syria and its policy in Lebanon.

Qadhafi last year said Chupan army commander Michel Aoun was the legitimate head of the Lebanese government.

Despite this he remained on good terms with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. During the celebrations in Tripoli last week he awarded Assad Libya's Star of Merit Medal.

It also brings up the United States.

The United States is now viewed by the Africans as the key player in the war.

U.S.-supplied rockets are tearing apart the city. U.S.-backed guerrillas have failed to topple the government of President Najib, as Western diplomats had predicted and as many Africans had expected, and the rebels' internal feuding has turned to warfare.

The United States closed its embassy in Kabul before the Soviet pullout, citing security concerns, and there are only a handful of Americans here full time, all missionary health workers.

The Afghan government is more dependent than ever on Moscow now for food, fuel, weapons and ammunition. The Soviet airlift continues with from 30 to 200 flights a day, according to diplomatic sources. Hundreds of supply trucks rumble down the Salang highway from the Soviet border to Kabul.

For some Afghans, the opportunity to confront an American visitor was not to be missed.

## Afghanistan: Hatred reserved for Soviets shifts to Americans

or their families ventured out of barracks or housing compounds into downtown bazaars and restaurants.

Afghans shouted shrawar, or Soviet, at any Russian or Westerner who looked like a Russian, sometimes accompanied by a shove, pinch or handful of tossed pebbles.

If Afghans learned a visitor was an American, there were usually smiles and pleas for the United States to supply anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons to Muslim guerrillas fighting to topple the Communist government.

The Soviets remain unloved and still keep a low profile, but not as hostile as before since they are no longer considered the enemy interloper.

The Soviet embassy compound remains a favourite guerrilla rocket target, even though they seem to be

missing it, and some Afghans blame the Soviets as well as the Americans for prolonging the fighting.

"All people think the Soviet Union and the United States want war in our country — they don't want peace in our country," said Dr. Mohammad Nasser, a surgeon at Avicenna chest hospital in Kabul who had just treated several victims of rocket attacks. "We don't want any more revolution. We just want Afghanistan for the Afghans."

In the dusty bazaars and crowded tea houses of Kabul, where students and businessmen talked about taking up arms against Soviet troops nine years ago, the conversation now centers on fear of rockets, the possibility of leaving the city, high food prices and the prospects of a political settlement — which in-

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## Features

Food from the desert  
for Egypt's millions

# New lands, new lives

In Egypt, a baby is born every 20 seconds. The population is now 52 million and another 1.3 million people are added every year. The vast majority of Egyptians live on only four per cent of the land, in the Nile valley and delta — the only land traditionally available for agriculture. To feed its people, Egypt must import over 50 per cent of its food. This daunting problem calls for bold solutions. In the following article, Mary Lynn Hanley reports on two innovative government projects that are opening up new farmlands, increasing food supply, and creating productive employment.

NOUBARIA, Egypt — When Safaa El Shimy was studying agronomy at the University of Cairo a decade ago, the land on which she now lives, grows vegetables and raises ducks and rabbits was nothing but a barren stretch of sand.

Now it is part of a thriving agricultural community of university graduates, formerly landless farmers and private investors. They are profitably growing beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers and other vegetables, cultivating guava, apple, pear, figs and olive trees, and raising livestock. They live in sturdy new cement houses, clustered together in villages served with clean drinking water and electricity, while nearby are schools, clinics and mosques, all connected by a good road network.

The transformation has taken place through a massive scheme to reclaim 875,000 hectares of desert in an area 150 kilometres west of Cairo. It is known as the Nubaria project, and on completion in the early 1990s it will increase Egyptian agricultural land by 20 per cent and create more than 75,000 new jobs. The effort is supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).

El Shimy personifies two unusual features of the project: she is a university graduate and a woman. In Nubaria, both receive special attention. "After I completed my studies, I wanted to do something new or different," says Ms. El Shimy. When the government offered 12.5 hectares of land in Nubaria, she decided to accept the challenge. With the plot, she received a house, two cows, technical advice and other support from the General Authority for Rehabilitation Projects and Agricultural Development (GARPAD).

El Shimy lives and works her farm alone. On some tasks, such as raising ducks, she co-operates with her next-door neighbour, another unmarried female university graduate. After two years she is making a good income, especially from breeding ducks and rabbits.

Thanks to the availability of Nile water stored by the Aswan dam, Egypt has reclaimed some 1.3 million hectares of desert land over the past nine years, 500,000 of which are in Nubaria. Initial reclamation involved seasonal flooding of the land — the system of irrigation traditionally practiced in the Nile delta. But this led to waterlogging and salinity. Modern sprinkler and drip irrigation methods which strictly control water use are now being applied.

Forty per cent of the reclaimed land is provided to university graduates and landless farmers against long-term soft loans. The rest is sold at market rates to small investors and agricultural companies. Thirty thousand settlers are already living in 30,000 villages. Among them are 8,000 university graduates, including 800 women, who have received 107,500 hectares of land. Landless farmers have received 35,000 hectares, small investors 300,000, and agricultural companies 125,000.



Tomatoes flourish at Nubaria's training and extension farm.

"Here you are starting from zero," says I.M. Aly, Egyptian Director of the UNDP-funded project which provides FAO technical support for GARPAD. The government has invested US\$435 million to reclaim the area. Irrigation has required the construction of 2,000 pumping stations and 357 kilometres of cement-lined canals, which deliver water to farms from the main canal connecting Nubaria with the Nile. Also in place are 470 kilometres of paved roads, more than 7,750 houses, 16 clinics, 19 primary schools, ten markets, 19 mosques, 36 community development centres, four police stations and two fire houses.

One of the toughest tasks facing the Nubaria settlers is making the sandy soil productive. According to Mr. Aly, this can be done either by changing soil composition or careful management of water and fertilizer. As adding organic matter or clay to increase the soil's holding capacity would be impractical over such a large area, GARPAD is advocating carefully controlled irrigation and a system called "fertigation," which delivers just the right amount of pre-fertilized water to each crop.

GARPAD's 38-hectare experimental farm is developing varieties of fruits and vegetables suitable for cultivation in Nubaria, as well as optimum growing techniques. The farm is also producing seedlings of fast-growing castor and acacia trees, planted as windbreaks to protect plots from sandstorms. The plan is to distribute half a million of these seedlings to farmers every year. For the first time, wheat is being grown in the desert sand. This is especially significant since Egypt now imports 75 per cent of its wheat requirements. "Our next campaign will be to introduce crops producing vegetable oil," says Mr. Aly, who is planning trials with sesame.

In the farm's breeding programme for small livestock, GARPAD specialists have found the Muscovy duck especially promising. It can reach a weight of four kilograms in 60 days — one-sixth the time it takes local species to grow that large. Installation of a new hatching unit will soon make it possible to distribute 5,000 one-day old ducklings to farmers every month. For rabbits, a new kind of cage has been developed, made of clay and for use underground. It attempts to duplicate the animal's natural habitat, protecting it from the fierce desert heat.

Lacking a large staff of extension workers, GARPAD is using pioneers like Ms. El Shimy as "contact farmers" to communicate its recommendations to new settlers. "We work with her and she works with others," says Mr. Aly. Through these efforts — and hard work by the settlers themselves — the reclaimed lands are yielding food, income and improved lives for a growing number of Egyptian families — UNDP.

## A task force for cancer

By Marianne M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — In the past two decades, cancer, its causes, effects and possible cures have been the main topic of concern at countless scientific, medical and human issues conferences, meetings, lectures and seminars. Although scientific research has alluded to various preventive measures to be adopted, a "cure" as such has not been found.

An increasing number of people are being effected by cancer all over the world. The West German news magazine, Der Spiegel, in a recent five-part feature article on cancer, suggested that as life expectancy is increasing the number of people who are found to have cancer is also increasing. According to Der Spiegel, it could even be an indication that less people are actually dying from the disease than at any time previously.

These are speculations and hypothesis which are very difficult to prove. Whatever the reason, the number of people afflicted by cancer in the world is increasing, according to statistics of the American Cancer Society.

A lack of statistics on the number of people treated has made it difficult to make estimates in Jordan. There seems to be a general consensus that many Jordanians may have been afflicted with cancer while never having been diagnosed for it for a variety of reasons. Doctors say that many Jordanians, as a result of certain cultural considerations, believe it is shameful to be ill, never contact a doctor and sometimes subsequently die without anyone ever finding out what was actually wrong with them.

Dr. Hani Jumeana, chief of hematology and the medical oncology section at the King Hussein Medical Centre, says: "There are certain beliefs that have developed over the ages if a woman is labelled 'ill'. Her unmarried sisters, daughters, and nieces may be inadvertently effected by her label and many people believe it is difficult for them to get married since they have a female relative who is sick. It could be explained as 'guilt' by association. Dealing with these beliefs

and trying to convince people that they are irrational is a very difficult task since some of these ideas have been embedded for such a long time."

The first cancer society in Jordan was established in 1968 with 100 initial members, under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

Today, the society has grown and boasts of 2,000 members, although only 150 are "active," according to Dr. Abdullah Awidi Abbadi, professor of medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine.

### Amal task force

The Amal task force, designed to be a mobile unit that is able to detect cancer in its early stages, was established in 1984 under the umbrella of the Jordanian Cancer Society. "The task force was largely designed to enable early detection," says Abbadi. The mobile unit, which is fully equipped, serves as a very useful on-the-road cancer centre.

"The cancer centre is intended to serve as an educational institution which raises public awareness about cancer as well as recruits rehabilitation volunteers and raises funds to support its projects, including the Amal task force," according to Abbadi.

Minibuses to help selected patients get to hospitals for treatment and back home, and specialised training of two Jordanian social workers were among the investments made from the collected funds of the cancer society.

"We sent two social workers to the United States to receive specialised training in social work related to cancer patients. Previously we did not have a properly trained staff to deal with specific rehabilitation problems that cancer patients might have to deal with," Abbadi said.

Until three years ago the activities of the cancer centre were rather limited, consisting of scattered lectures here and there, according to Abbadi.

### Voluntary work

Voluntary help for cancer patients has also increased over the last several years. "One of our aims is to get help for cancer patients whenever it is needed and whenever we can.

There are times when a family's wage earner is afflicted by cancer. Very often families, which are faced with such a situation, feel 'lost' and in such an instance it is necessary for us, as a cancer society, to provide support for the family. Although at present we only have 12 semi-permanent volunteers, their help is extremely valuable. We need many more people whose neighbours, friends or relatives are incapacitated by cancer. Sometimes they need someone to help them with house work or just to help them go on a walk."

Abbadi said. Abbadi suggests that in certain housing complexes, such as Abu Nuseir, it would be ideal if "residents of the complex to help each other out in a time of need."

He points out that people deal with cancer in completely different ways. "There are basically two types of reactions to cancer. Those who 'will not face facts,' — who want to pretend that there is nothing wrong with them whatsoever — and those who do face the facts. Those belonging to the second category are increasing. It is psychologically very important for them to be able to meet with people who have had cancer and who have been cured."

According to both Abbadi and Jumeana, many former cancer patients do not like being identified, and are often unwilling to help others with their "pains and fears."

"This is unfortunate since they could surely be of great help to others and we could find ways and means of keeping them unanimous to all but the patients concerned," Abbadi says.

Abbadi agrees that 90 per cent of all cancers are linked to environmental factors. "Some of these environmental factors can be controlled and some cannot. Dietary habits for example can be controlled. On the other hand some non-man-made chemical and toxic effects cannot always be controlled."

## A woman's saviour

By Jennie Street

WOMEN travel hundreds of kilometres, from as far away as Sudan, to deliver their babies at Rora Habab, in war-torn Eritrea, because they have heard about the nurse who put an end to circumcision.

Assefash Gulbet, an urban woman, has become a heroine for hundreds of rural women. In former years, the two would never have come into contact with each other.

Rora Habab is a mountain plateau accessible only through deep stony valleys and winding mountain roads after a journey of some 14 hours from Sudan, and then another 10 hours from northern Eritrea.

The Muslim population of about 12,000 people has traditionally been semi-nomadic, spending the winter months in Rora, and then, as water grows scarce with the coming of summer, travelling with their animals to Sudan and to the north-eastern coast for grazing.

As pastoralists living in the remote high mountains and with little contact with different ideas, they practised female circumcision for centuries.

Assefash works out of the Rora Health Centre, part of an extensive network of health services run by the department of health of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), which is fighting a civil war to gain independence from the Ethiopian government.

When she started work there in 1983, she found many severely malnourished women and children. Epidemics occurred because of poor hygiene and most of the women suffered infections as a result of circumcision.

"I started visiting the women in their homes, individually, to learn their problems. At first they were ashamed to tell me," she recalls.

At first they talked alone. Later, groups came together. Assefash started to gain their confidence further through basic health education.

She gradually learned that they did not want to be pregnant every year; that they suffered a lot of pain as a result of circumcision. They also said that they felt nothing would change for them if the men did not change their attitudes. They asked her to talk to the men.

Assefash had no hesitation in doing so — discussing with them intimate details of the sexual and gynaecological problems caused by circumcision. "They were embarrassed at first," she says, "to discuss such things with a woman, and a strange woman at that. I made them realise that circumcision had just become a ritual. In practice, they admitted that they would not know whether a woman had been stitched on the labia or elsewhere."

As a result of these persuasive discussions, no girl child in Rora has been circumcised since 1985.

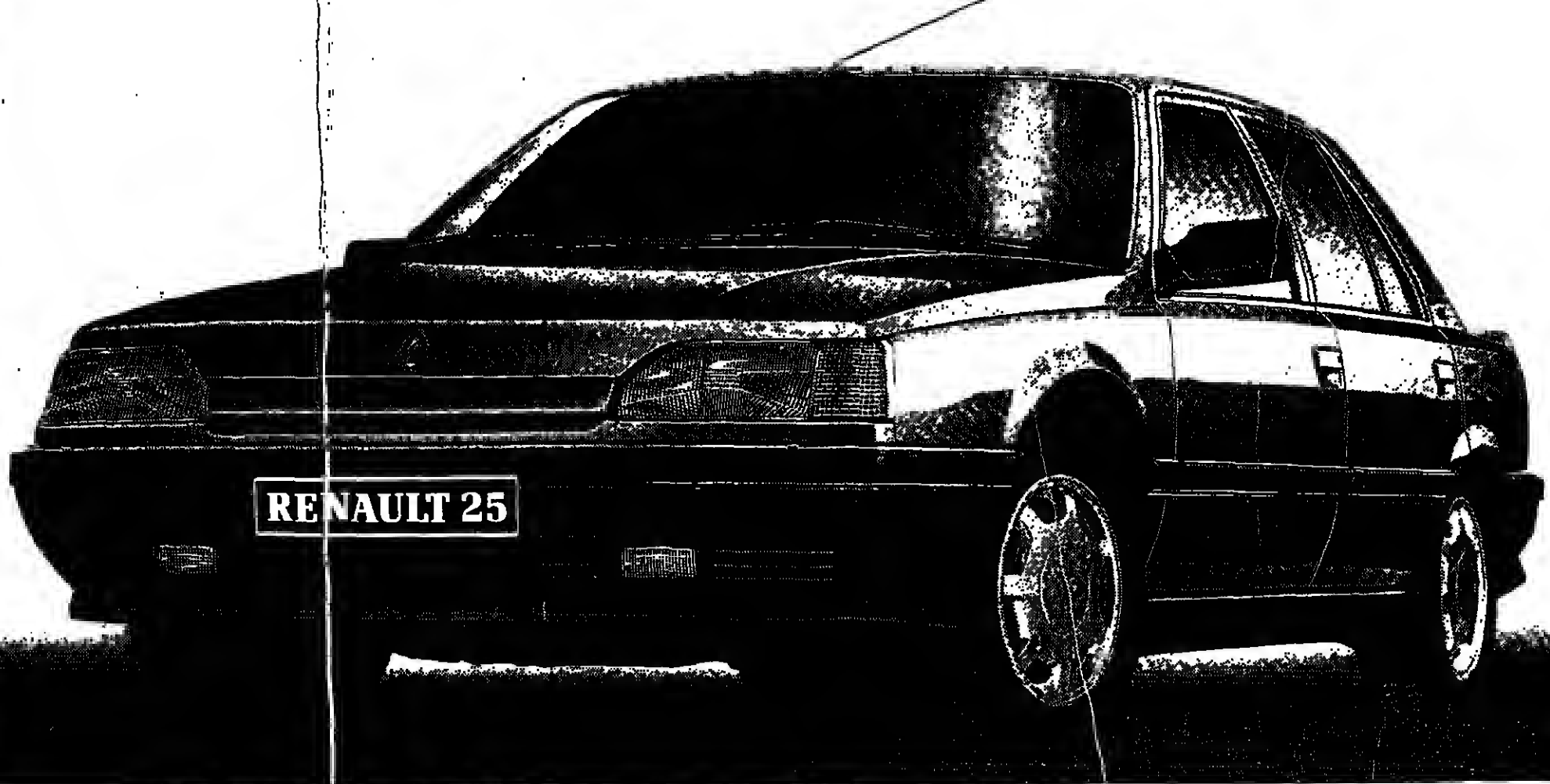
This has been a major breakthrough: through a slow process of getting to know these remote communities, gaining their trust, and showing them the damage of this customary practice, Assefash and her colleagues have succeeded in ending the women's torment.

But still she does not rest. "Without home visits, it's useless to do health education," she believes. She encourages all the clinic staff and health committees to visit homes regularly, and she herself visits each of the five main village areas once a month. All her visits are on foot, as the health centre has no vehicle. To reach the furthest village is an eight-hour walk over the mountains, on steep rocky paths. She never misses a visit.

Anti-natal clinics take place weekly and Assefash organises and teaches courses for village health workers. Family planning and contraception advice is given to all women, and accepted by all the communities.

Rora Health Centre with its five satellite clinics is only one unit in an extensive network of EPLF health services which includes four hospitals.

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## EC finance ministers endorse serious moves towards unity

ANTIBES France (AP) — European Community (EC) finance ministers Saturday took another step toward uniting the monetary and economic policies of their dozen nations.

Nigel Lawson of Britain, a country which has resisted moves toward economic unity it fears would threaten sovereignty, sketched an alternative path for the finance chiefs but appeared to gather little support.

The officials, meeting behind closed doors, endorsed proposals for closer consultations among the nations on economic and monetary matters.

"We are no doubt going in the right direction," said French Finance Minister Pierre Berégovoy. "It was a step forward."

Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, the trading bloc's executive body, said, "We did what we set out to

do."

The drive for monetary union has added a new dimension to the common market's plans, to fashion a single market by the end of 1992. By that date, the nations want to remove the many trade barriers that prevent the free movement of people, goods, services and money.

The ministers' decision to support the proposals — they still must receive formal approval — paves the way for the start next July 1 of the first phase of tighter economic and monetary coordination.

Danish Economics Minister Niels Helveg Petersen said, "there's no doubt that this meet-

ing really showed the instruments of the first phase can be adopted fairly soon."

The ministers meet twice a year in an informal setting to hash out financial issues.

The current meeting on the Mediterranean was their first chance to discuss in detail their leaders' decisions at a June summit in Madrid to begin moving toward monetary union. The leaders failed to back far-reaching proposals that would lead to a single currency and a European-wide central bank system.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has been an outspoken opponent of the calls for sweeping monetary changes. She argues such plans would force countries to give up some of their sovereignty to new institutions. Lawson reiterated the British

government's objection to forming a common currency and a central bank system.

Instead, he urged his colleagues to remove restrictions so that all the European currencies would be legal tender — acceptable for savings and transactions — throughout the Community. He promised to give his colleagues, probably in November, a more detailed plan.

But Dutch Finance Minister Onno Ruding said the proposal "looks like a kind of survival of the fittest... good money would drive out bad."

He said the idea "did not receive much support" from other ministers who appeared "numb" at the thought.

Beregovoy said the ministers listened attentively. But, he said, "attention doesn't mean approval."

## 'Honesty, austerity make few friends'

ISTANBUL (R) — Nurettin Sozen's problems as mayor of Istanbul began as soon as he was elected — the staff in his city hall office were so upset that they resigned. Even the teaboy.

Four months later Sozen, a Social Democrat, is getting used to unpopularity as he wages war on what he says is corruption and waste in Turkey's biggest city and financial centre.

"I am not from the business circles. I am from the people," Sozen, 52, told Reuters.

But the people as well as businessmen seem less happy that Sozen is ending construction projects that would modernise his city of up to eight million people, where minarets and mosques dot the skyline and traditional bazaars thrive.

The projects were the brainchild of Sozen's centre-right predecessor Bedrettin Dalan, who wanted skyscrapers to spring up in business districts and planned major sewage, road and rail works.

Sozen's priorities are different. His "humans first" policy gives a free litre of milk to 40,000 children every day and free water to some people. Free bread has been promised to the poor of

Istanbul's squatter suburbs. But 84 per cent of respondents told a poll in the right-wing Tercuman newspaper that Sozen had done nothing right since his election.

Only 20 per cent said they would vote for him again, compared to the 36 per cent that gave him his upset victory in March.

"I have to respect what Sozen's team is trying to do," said a foreigner trying to revive a major municipal project.

"They are scrupulous, honest, don't take bribes and seem to care about preserving the ancient fabric and appearance of the city," he noted.

Even Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, leader of the ruling Motherland Party to which Dalan belongs, has come under scrutiny.

"We are investigating one of the prime minister's houses," said Sozen, a Social Democrat populist party member. "If it was (built illegally) we will pull it down." A bad press, a hostile central government and a billion dollar municipal foreign debt are other problems facing Sozen.

"The finances are a shambles," said a foreign banker who said he

had suspended contacts with the new custodians of the 3,000-year-old city spanning Europe and Asia.

A senior treasury official said municipality statements that gave a wrong impression that Istanbul would not service its foreign debt were just one sign of the new team's inexperience.

Dalan told Reuters: "Sozen has done nothing except fight me. People who fight have no time to do real work. Leadership is needed." He added he was considering a comeback to politics at national level later this year.

Dalan complained that his administration's 4,500-shop Pera complex, the world's biggest commercial floorspace under one roof, was lying empty due to a land dispute.

"I could have solved that 20 times by now," said Dalan, known for his aggressive methods and financial flexibility.

Sozen, highly critical of Dalan's financial policies, shook hands with him only briefly at a city hall transfer of power ceremony.

"Dalan's general secretary, four undersecretaries, even the teaboy and cleaner just dis-

appeared," after the election, Sozen said.

"It took three accountants a whole week to work out where we stood," he noted.

Critics say Sozen can be petty — as when he changed the signs of Dalan's "Istanbul Metro" to read "Fast Tramway," because it does not run underground.

Already opened by Dalan and Ozal, the 8.5-kilometre track will be officially reopened by Sozen this month. Dalan said this was not Sozen's only reopening ceremony.

Sozen said new construction was in the pipeline. Tenders were planned for a new metro line and a rail tunnel linking Europe and Asia under the Bosphorus.

But officials say the \$1.8 billion cost is unlikely to be approved soon by the central government. Ural Hakverdi, local partner in the Asea-Brown Boveri consortium still building the "Fast Tramway" from old Istanbul to the airport, said Sozen had not done a bad job as mayor.

"He had two roomfuls of contractors to go over when he took office," Hakverdi said. "The people expect wonders from each lord mayor. But everything needs time."

## Vietnam wants \$300m bank loan to vend IMF embargo

HANOI (R) — Vietnam is trying to escape from its economic dead-end street by gaining International Monetary Fund (IMF) support for a \$300 million commercial bank loan that would help unlock new IMF money, a senior Vietnamese banker said.

Nguyen Cong Hai, deputy director of the foreign department of the State Bank of Vietnam, said the aim was to generate funds to implement a one-year stabilisation plan and to restore normal relations with the fund.

The plan, to be put before IMF and World Bank meetings in the next few weeks, reflects hope in Hanoi that Western countries will ease their isolation of Vietnam after it withdraws its troops from Cambodia later this month.

However diplomats and foreign bankers here said there was considerable doubt that the United States, which wields immense influence at the IMF and World Bank, would soften its line against its old communist enemy to allow the package.

Hai said in an interview Vietnam and proposed that the French bank Banque Paribas Pour Commerce Extérieur, which has an office in Ho Chi Minh City in the south, be asked to lead a consortium of banks to raise \$300 million in loans.

Of this about \$130 million would be used to pay off IMF arrears dating from the end of 1988. Because of those arrears the fund barred Vietnam access to its facilities.

The remaining \$170 million would be used to help put into practice a 12-month plan, worked out with IMF guidance, to fight inflation, lower the yawning budget deficit and build up the tiny hard currency reserves.

Clearing the IMF arrears would make Vietnam, whose 65 million people live in one of the world's poorest economies, once again eligible for several IMF

facilities.

"We would be eligible for structural adjustment and enhanced structural adjustment facilities which, according to our IMF quota, could mean \$350 to \$400 million," Hai said.

Vietnam depends on its communist allies for most of its foreign trade and investment but needs the flexibility of hard currency and Western management skills as it reshapes the economy and tries to compete with more nimble Asian states.

Members of a World Bank delegation that conducted an economic survey of Vietnam in the last three weeks said they were extremely impressed by the government's stability programme, which has had a dramatic effect in the last year.

Cuts in subsidies and monetary restrictions and a bold decision to create a realistic rate for the dong currency have brought inflation down from dizzying three-figure heights to about four per cent per month, according to official figures.

The black market mark-up on the dong has been virtually abolished.

Bankers like Hai, who appear to have the full backing of the politically-conservative politburo, are determined to push ahead with their tightening in the next year, whether or not the IMF supports their plan for clearing arrears and generating new capital.

The aim is cut inflation to one per cent by next September. State expenditure would be further reduced as the level of state sector borrowing.

Broader taxation systems would come in, including higher taxes on imports, in a drive to balance the budget.

Hai said it was essential to increase hard currency reserves, which were now about \$10 million or the equivalent of just one

week's imports.

Political decisions are still pending on some aspects, including the extra taxation, and officials realise the new measures will create further burdens on society.

"In the short term there will certainly be more difficulties in daily living," said Hai. "State employees will be particularly affected."

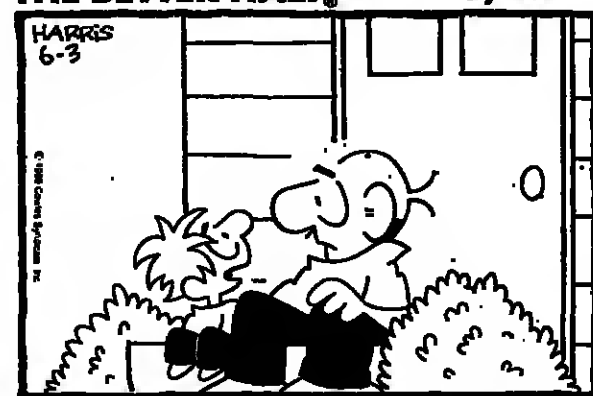
A state bank official said about 40 per cent of industrial produc-

tion was idle after radical restrictions on money supply in March. Some small enterprises had closed.

The official said unemployment, already high, was given a new twist with some state enterprises shedding up to 70 per cent of their staff.

"The state bank governor will detail the new economic austerity proposals in an address to the IMF/World Bank meeting,

### THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"My grandpa is getting fat, gray and wrinkled. I think he's turning into an elephant!"

### JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: OBESE BUSHY HAMMER INTACT  
Answer: If horseback riding becomes an "addiction," this can be expensive—THE "HABIT"

## Brokers anticipate boom on Madrid bourse soon

MADRID (R) — The Madrid bourse, buoyed by prospects of a renewed Socialist government mandate after an early general election next month, is heading for a record high, brokers and analysts have said.

"I think it's going to surpass its historical high of 328.36 points in the next two weeks," broker Patricio Diez from Agencias Bolsa Asociadas said of the Madrid stock exchange index.

But most brokers said the rise would be accompanied by corrections as investors take profits.

"The long-term trend is for the bourse to rise and reach its historical high but there will be corrections because of profit-taking,"

Lyall Hendrie from Ibercorp said.

The decision by Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to call elections eight months early was widely welcomed by economists and markets, and the bourse index closed at a 1989 high Monday of 325.75. Profit-taking Tuesday clipped a mere 0.33 points off it, dealers said.

"We've got political stability now that the election date is fixed. The belief is that the Socialist Party will win a third term and that will bring great stability to the market, which is what it wants," Hendrie said.

Analysts said the market expects Gonzalez, who has been in

power almost seven years, to win the election and to seize the opportunity to use fiscal measures to dampen an overheating economy, rein in inflation currently around nine per cent and reduce a growing trade deficit.

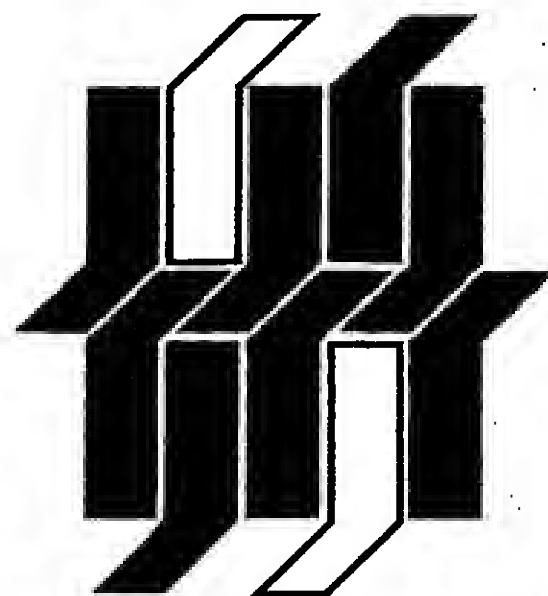
"The high is a bit artificial. The bourse will be corrected after the elections until the end of the year when the effect of new measures starts being felt," Argentes Bolsa's Diez said.

Brokers said the bourse had also taken a boost from good performances in Wall Street and Frankfurt and added that CAIX, a new computer-assisted trading programme, was increasing volume. The Madrid bourse was

ushered into the electronic era at the end of July when it shed its centuries-old trading system. Several major stocks are now traded continuously.

In the first eight months of this year, 2.69 billion pesetas (\$216 million) worth of shares were traded — more than the 2.47 billion pesetas (\$199 million) traded for all of 1988 — and foreign investment has climbed 21.02 per cent.

The strong advance in recent days has been spearheaded by electrical shares, in high demand by foreign investors, and blue chip stock such as oil company Repsol, which entered the continuous market Monday.



## INDIAN TRADE EXHIBITION

AT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION HALL, MARJ AL-HAMAM

SEPTEMBER 14-22, 1989.

TIMINGS: 10.00 hrs. — 13.00 hrs. (For Business Visitors)  
16.00 hrs — 20.00 hrs. (For General Public)

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Engineering goods including automobile spare parts, agricultural implements, telecommunication systems, consultancy services, office equipment, earth moving equipment, cinema projectors, machine tools, hand tools, builders hardware, cosmetics and other consumer goods.

### PARTICIPATION PROFILE

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### BUSINESS SYMPOSIA

- Seminar on Jordan-India Trade & Economic Co-operation on September 14, 1989 at 4.00 p.m.
- Symposium on Telecommunication Technology on September 16, 1989 at 10 a.m. at EXHIBITION HALL.

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### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, September 9, 1989  
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	90.5	91.4
U.S. dollar	608.5	614.5	Japanese yen (for 100)	413.3	417.4
Pound Sterling	935.2	944.6	Dutch guilder	270.6	273.3
Deutschemark	304.9	307.9	Swedish corona	90.7	91.6
Swiss franc	352.9	356.4	Italian lira (for 100)	42.6	43.0
			Belgian franc (for 10)	146.0	147.5



## France to invite mixed South African team

AGEN, France (R) — The French Rugby Union Federation (FFR) is to invite a South African team to tour France, on condition half the side is coloured (mixed race) or black, the FFR said on Sunday.

The governing board of the FFR said no dates had been fixed for the tour, but said South African Rugby Board (SARB) President Dennis Craven had agreed provisionally.

The tour decision was made at

a meeting on Saturday of the FFR's governing board in this south-western French town.

The only condition for the tour "is that the team must be made up of 50 per cent of coloured players," one board member said.

The French government, which could stop the tour, has said it opposes all sporting relations with South Africa because of its apartheid policies.

## Italy brings touch of class to 1990 world cup finals

By Jill Serjeant  
Renter

ROME — Soccer, opera and Franco Zeffirelli — that's part of the 1990 World Cup soccer final.

The plan is for a superlative cultural promotion drive aimed at bringing in the tourists long after the final whistle of the month-long tournament.

Eager to show off its best exports, the Italian organizers of the World Cup have put together a programme with more than a touch of class starring the world's three most famous tenors and 12 of Italy's best known film makers.

Laciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras have agreed to sing together for the first time at a charity concert in Rome on the eve of the July 8 World Cup final.

The concert of Opera arias and popular songs, fruit of a four-year effort to unite the three singers on the same stage, will take place in the ruins of Rome's third century Baths of Caracalla.

Neither the singers nor the organizers find anything bizarre in the marriage between soccer and culture.

"Music and sport share an international language which is understood by everyone," Spanish-born Domingo told journalists at a Rome news conference

announcing the concert. "All three of us like football very much and I'm hoping to see Spain playing Italy in the final the next day," Domingo added.

In Italy, where politicians, business tycoons and artists share with ordinary fans a pride and enthusiasm for soccer rarely seen in most other European nations, sport and classical music often go hand in hand.

Cycling, Italy's second national sport, is strongly associated with the racing arias from Giacomo Puccini's opera "Turandot" which accompanies daily television coverage of the annual three-week Giro d'Italia race.

The same piece — "Nessun Dorma" recorded by Italy's Pavarotti — will be used to introduce short films on each of the 12 Italian cities hosting the soccer finals and looks set to become the unofficial theme tune of the tournament.

Pavarotti, a fervent fan of Turin club Juventus, will also sing in an entertainment spectacular during the December 9 draw in Rome for the finals.

Italian director Zeffirelli — a keen supporter of first division Fiorentina — Bernardo Bertolucci, Michelangelo Antonioni, Lina Wertmüller, Francesco Rosi and Ermanno Olmi lead the squad of 12 film-makers called up to take part in the six-billion lira (\$4.5-million) film project.

Only Federico Fellini has declined the invitation.

The eight-minute films will be shown on television to a worldwide audience expected to be in the region of 15 billion spectators over the 31 days of the tournament.

"The eyes of the world will be on our country and we want them to see a complete panorama of what Italy can offer," said Italian Sport and Tourism Minister Franco Carraro.

Italy expects eight million extra tourists during the competition. But because many will be from countries which have no soccer tradition and no team playing in the finals, it will provide a full programme of non-sporting events to entertain them and when their appetites for a return visit.

In Milan, the La Scala opera house is planning a gala concert with conductor Riccardo Muti on the eve of the opening match on June 8, and the season will be extended into July for opera starring Domingo and Soprano Mirella Freni.

Back in Rome, Pavarotti, Domingo and Carreras say they will be singing for "solidarity and joy."

"Let's hope it will be a message of peace and hope for the world — and that this message will be remembered by the soccer fans," Sports Minister Carraro said.

## American League Roundup

NEW YORK (AP) — The American League's two longest current winning streaks came to an end Saturday when both the New York Yankees and Detroit Tigers lost.

The Yankees had their nine-game winning streak stopped in a 7-0 loss to the Oakland Athletics, while the Tigers had their seven-game streak snapped in a 13-3 loss to Chicago.

The Yankees and Rookie Clayton Kershaw, 4-5, were matching zeroes with Oakland's Mike Moore before a routine fly ball was lost in the sun by left fielder Mel Hall with two out in the sixth inning to open the floodgates to the A's victory.

"Parker was pitching a strong game but we caught a break with that fly ball," said A's manager Tony La Russa, whose club is now 27-7 in day games at the Oakland Coliseum and 43-14 overall in the daylight.

White Sox 13, Tigers 3

Detroit right fielder Scott Luscader tied a major-league record by committing three errors in Chicago's seven-run first inning.

Luscader committed two fielding errors and one throwing error, the eighth major-league outfielder to commit three errors in an inning and the first in the American League since 1925.

Royals 3, Twins 1

Bret Saberhagen pitched three-hit ball through eight innings, becoming the American League's second 18-game winner, and Bo Jackson had three RBIs as the Kansas City Royals beat the Minnesota Twins 3-1.

Jackson had a pair of doubles to enable the Royals to remain 3 games behind Oakland in the AL

West. The loser was Rick Aguilera, 1-4.

Brewers 7, Mariners 3

Paul Molitor went 5-for-5 and George Canale's run-scoring single broke a fourth-inning tie as the Milwaukee Brewers beat Seattle 7-3, handing the Mariners their 10th straight loss in the Kingdome.

It was Milwaukee's fourth straight victory and Seattle's fifth loss in a row. The Mariners' 10 straight defeats at home is a club record. The Mariners last month

tied a club record with 12 losses in a row.

Blue Jays 7, Indians 5, 16

innings

Fred McGriff hit a two-run single with two outs in the 16th inning as the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Cleveland Indians 7-5. It was the longest game of the year for the two teams.

The Blue Jays blew three separate leads, all during the first eight innings, before finally nailing down their 10th win in the last 12 games.

## National League Roundup

NEW YORK (AP) — Tom Glavine pitched a three-hitter over eight scoreless innings as the Atlanta Braves snapped a five-game losing streak Saturday with a 2-1 victory over the Cincinnati Reds.

Glavine was relieved by Dwayne Henry after walking pinch hitter Barry Larkin to start the bottom of the ninth. The Reds scored on Henry's wild pitch and an RBI single by Luis Quinones that extended his hitting streak to 17 games. Eric Davis forced Quinones and then stole second but Henry got his first National League save by

striking out Benzing and Oliver.

Pirates 8, Mets 5

Bobby Bonilla hit his second home run of the game with one out in the 12th inning and Dann Bilardello and Jose Lind singled home unearned runs. New York had rallied from a 5-1 deficit to tie the score on Howard Johnson's two-run homer in the eighth.

With one out in the 12th, Bonilla hit his 22nd home run off Jeff Innis. One out later, Gary Redus was safe on third baseman Johnson's throwing error.

## HUSSEIN OF JORDAN

BY JAMES LUNT

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## GOVERN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
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### READ THEM AND WIN

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH  
♠ 7 6 4  
♥ K Q 2  
♦ Q 7 5  
♣ J 9 3

EAST  
♠ Q J 9 3  
♥ 7  
♦ A 10 8 3  
♣ 6 4 2

SOUTH  
♠ 10 8 5  
♥ J 9 6 4 3  
♦ A K  
♣ K Q 6

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♣ NT 2 ♣ Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠  
If you read bridge columns, ours included, you might get the impression that you have to be in game or slam for the play to be interesting. Nothing could be further from the truth. Many low-level contracts feature sparkling play and defense.

West's no trump overall showed the equivalent of a no trump opening bid. Because of his fit, North might have considered a penalty double rather than two hearts — de-

clarer could have been held to six tricks.

Against two hearts, West led the king of spades and East dropped the queen. This play guarantees either a singleton queen or possession of the jack as well. Since a singleton queen was impossible (that would have given South a six-card spade suit), West knew he had no entry to his partner's hand. He also knew that he could expect no other help from his partner — all the points in the pack were accounted for.

For the defense to prevail, the defenders would need to take three spade tricks. That, together with the ace of hearts and clubs, would provide the defensive book. Where was the setting trick coming from?

A trump promotion was impossible because of dummy's holding. That left only a club ruff. So at trick two, West abandoned spades in favor of switching to the ace of clubs and another. Declarer won and led a trump, but West wasted no time. He climbed up with the ace, cashed the king of spades and continued with a spade to East's jack. The obvious club return and West's ruff for a one-trick set completed an excellent defense.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Now you are able to reduce the ideas of the past few days into practical reality, especially where anything connected with money is concerned. An old friend reenters your life now.

**ARIES:** Now is time to make a friend of that talented person from a distance. Go out on the town on invitation given by a cooperative associate.

**Taurus:** A person comes from afar who can help you in a career matter. If you present ideas in inspired fashion you can get co-workers to go along with your wishes.

**GEMINI:** Delving into every aspect of your workload gives you the ability to handle it better. Invite the influential persons available into your house.

**MOON CHILDREN:** Invite persons of prosperity into your home and get good ideas. Avoid taking trip with attachment where there is any danger of accidents.

**LEO:** You can take up those loose ends on your job and finish them efficiently. Spending more on your home than you can afford would be a great mistake now.

**VERGO:** Make an effort to meet a person of different background who can be helpful to you. Despite problems show family you are able to meet emergencies head-on.

**LIBRA:** You are the one to get charming friends together at social activities now. Take time out with

family to visit and cheer one who is in some distress.

**SCORPIO:** Business decisions are difficult but adopt a new idea towards your duties. You now have a chance to increase the harmony at your duties.

**SAGITTARIUS:** You feel tied down in business but that's no reason to shrink your basic duties. Let family be more aware of your happiness at being with them.

**CAPRICORN:** Get a friend to aid you in putting across a work idea to an executive. Study your means by which you improve your business or money affairs.

**AQUARIUS:** An expert will confidentially give you some data that aids your progress. A day to open the doors of your home to entertain chances from a distance.

**PISCES:** Plan with family for a trip by putting some money aside. You want to make a friend of a highly placed person but time is not yet ripe.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will insist on knowing all about the value of property, stocks, bonds, escrows, mortgages, prime bank notes and CD's so adjust the education along those financial lines and your progeny will have a great chance to become a financial wizard.

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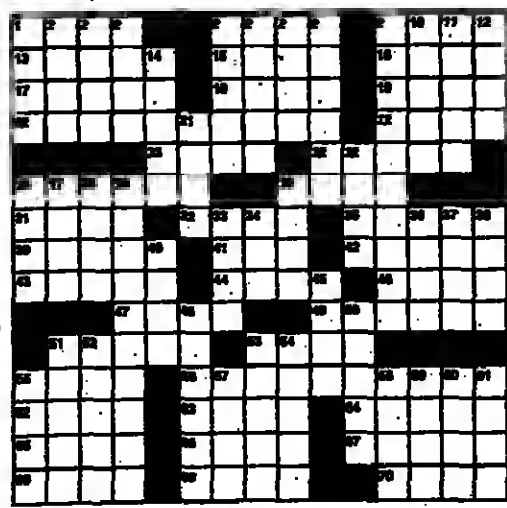
636147/ Babelche 661322 and

the National Music Conservatory 687620.

## THE Daily Crossword

by Louis Sabin

- ACROSS
- 1 Run
  - 2 Snake
  - 3 Art style
  - 4 Basil
  - 5 Hawaiian island
  - 6 Seal
  - 7 Sport setting
  - 8 Concerning
  - 9 Big top
  - 10 Hoover or New
  - 11 Thus
  - 12 Gr. mountain
  - 13 Sea's opposite
  - 14 Turn in for the night
  - 15 Sundry word
  - 16 Algerian port
  - 17 Lasso
  - 18 Intolerant one
  - 19 Fan
  - 20 Shower of tennis
  - 21 — now and then
  - 22 Steel away
  - 23 Slender mecca
  - 24 Zest
  - 25 Countess' husband
  - 26 Argus' eye
  - 27 Separates
  - 28 Boutique
  - 29 Legal misdeed
  - 30 Escapes' dog
  - 31 Ray of flame
  - 32 Purpose
  - 33 — sanctum
  - 34 Wanting
  - 35 Rich fabric
  - 36 Elm Gaeche
  - 37 — river
  - 38 Drops a stitch
  - 39 — Scott
  - 40 Old ponds



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### Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

- 1 Barbara or Clara
- 2 Unfitted
- 3 Loose
- 4 Closest and Queen
- 5 Ward off
- 6 Outback wild dog
- 7 Chorus voice
- 8 Small drum
- 9 Customer
- 10 North Sea leader
- 11 Travel Fountain site
- 12 Of a time
- 13 Elephant's ear
- 14 official
- 15 Jute fiber
- 16 Ring stone
- 17 Sidekick
- 18 Hard
- 19 Ph.D. exam
- 20 Daily who plays Lacey
- 21 Miami —
- 22 — recorder
- 23 Coarse
- 24 Garden pest
- 25 Shade
- 26 Zest
- 27 Fr. river
- 28 Did lawn work
- 29 Fabulet
- 30 Small Bible
- 31 Apartment
- 32 Nite webfoot
- 33 Showed

## Kenneth David & Brenda Bakke In

### SCAVENGERS

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

## A NIGHT ON THE TOWN

Shows: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

## SWIM TEAM

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30



# India makes fresh offer to Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (AP) — India has promised to order a ceasefire if Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa accepts its proposal for the withdrawal of Indian peacekeeping soldiers, a senior official said Sunday.

Also Sunday, military officials said they feared at least 150 Tamil civilians may have died since Friday in the latest Indian military offensive against Tamil rebels in northeastern Sri Lanka. An Indian official denied the charge.

A government communique, meanwhile, reported nine people were killed Sunday in continuing ethnic violence.

India, seeking to end a diplomatic stalemate over its peacekeeping troops in Sri Lanka, announced last week a new proposal for withdrawing the 42,000 soldiers had been sent to Premadasa for approval.

Details of the proposal, worked out last week during the Non-Aligned Summit in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, were not disclosed. A senior Sri Lankan government official said on condition of not being identified Saturday that India agreed to pull its troops out of Sri Lanka by Dec. 31, two months earlier than previously offered.

Another government official, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said Sunday that India also promised to order its troops to halt all military operations against the Tamils once the proposal was accepted. The rebels would be asked to observe the ceasefire, he said.

The official said the cabinet,

which will discuss the proposal Wednesday, probably would accept the Dec. 31 deadline but would ask India to provide a more detailed pullout timetable.

In New Delhi, a foreign ministry spokesman declined comment.

India deployed its soldiers to Sri Lanka in July 1987 to enforce a peace accord at ending a rebellion by Tamil militants demanding a separate homeland in north and east Sri Lanka.

The largest and most militant group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, rejected the Indian-mediated agreement, saying it fell short of its demands, and turned its guns on peacekeeping forces.

Officials at the joint operations command in Colombo expressed fears that at least 150 Tamil civilians have died since Friday in a fresh Indian military offensive in northeastern Mullaitivu district.

The officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, said Indian troops used helicopter gunships, artillery and mortars in an attack on the villages of Alampil, Semmalai, Thannerooru and Kalikadu, about 280 kilometres northeast of Colombo.

Military officials said hundreds of Tamil civilians were fleeing the area.

An Indian High Commission official denied the allegations and said Indian forces were conducting normal search operations in the district, known to be a major hideout of the Tamil Tigers.

"The IPKF (Indian peacekeeping forces) will never resort to such indiscriminate attacks under any circumstances," the official said on condition of not being identified.

A government communique said nine people had been killed in ethnic violence since Saturday. The victims included three Tamil rebels killed by Indian troops, three Sinhalese radicals killed in the south and three unidentified Sinhalese whose bodies were found by troops. The communique gave no details.

More than 11,000 people, including 1,000 Indian soldiers, have died since the Tamil rebellion began in 1983.

Tamils comprise 18 per cent of the island's 16 million people and claim they are denied jobs and education by the majority Sinhalese, who make up 75 per cent of the population and dominate the government and military.

In the 1987 accord, the government offered the Tamils limited autonomy if they would surrender their weapons and give up their secessionist campaign.

The offer triggered a violent backlash by Sinhalese militants, who contend the government offered too many concessions to the minority Tamils. More than 5,000 people have been killed so far in the Sinhalese backlash.

## Pinochet prepares to surrender presidency

SANTIAGO (R) — General Augusto Pinochet marks the 16th anniversary of his military government in Chile Monday, apparently resigned to surrendering the presidency but determined not to lose all his power.

Pinochet, who must make way for a civilian successor following December's elections, has vowed to stay on as commander of the powerful Chilean army following the handover.

The fiercely anti-Communist general, who led a bloody military coup Sept. 11, 1973, appears determined to protect the military's future political influence enshrined in the country's constitution.

"He may have lost the presidency, but he clearly is not resigned to abandoning all his power," one Western diplomat said.

Some opposition leaders fear that Chile could follow the same path as Panama, where General Manuel Noriega is the country's de facto ruler despite holding no formal government post.

Pinochet, who overthrew President Salvador Allende in the coup, was forced to call the elections after he lost a plebiscite last October on prolonging his rule for eight more years.

Opinion polls suggest opposition candidate Patricio Aylwin may win the election and become the country's first elected leader since Allende, who died in the coup.

Aylwin, who centrist Christian Democrat Party initially supported the coup before moving over to the opposition, has repeatedly called for the general to step aside, saying his presence in the army command is an obstacle to the country's return to full democracy.

Opposition parties say that if they are victorious in the Dec. 14 vote, they will seek to change the constitution to curb the military's role.

Political analysts say that despite the political setback the military suffered with Pinochet's

loss in the plebiscite, the armed forces believe they are in a strong position to lay down conditions for a smooth transfer of power.

Behind the military's tough stance lies fear about how an opposition government would deal with the issue of human rights violations, many political analysts believe.

Human rights officials say hundreds of people disappeared or were executed during and after the coup. Continuing allegations of rights abuses brought repeated condemnations of the Pinochet government from the United Nations and other international bodies.

Military chiefs have made clear they will not allow any revision of an 11-year-old amnesty law protecting members of the armed forces from prosecution for any alleged abuses in the first years of their government.

But analysts say there is unlikely to be any firm developments until after the vote has been counted from the Dec. 14 ballot.

## Chinese ordered to carry ID cards, learn slogans

PEKING (R) — Chinese were ordered Sunday to carry identity cards and learn 40 slogans to mark the 40th anniversary of the Communist state, further signs of hardline tightening their grip.

Major newspapers published a list of the slogans as part of a propaganda blitz in preparation for Oct. 1, the 40th anniversary of the day Mao Tse-tung announced the founding of the People's Republic in Tiananmen Square.

Slogans one and two hail the anniversary and the "great achievements" of "socialism modernisation and reform" slogan number three is "warmly hail the victory over the turmoil and counter-revolutionary rebellion."

Hundreds, perhaps thousands, died when the army moved into central Peking June 4 to crush

large-scale student-led protests. But there are signs that "victory" has not been achieved. Several soldiers stationed on the streets of Peking have been murdered since June 4, student leaders on a wanted list are still at large and there is widespread disbelief in the official version of the events of that day.

"The most dangerous place for soldiers is near the history museum where there were many civilian deaths and many relatives eager for revenge," a taxi driver said.

Diplomats said security surrounding leading Chinese officials had been tightened.

From Oct. 15 citizens will have to carry ID cards — the first time this has been compulsory since 1949, the Peking Daily said

Sunday. More than 570 million cards have been issued since 1985, 74 per cent of the total to be given out, it said.

The leadership has blamed the protests in part on "bourgeois liberalism" meaning Western political ideas.

The Legal News Saturday quoted Public Security Minister Wang Fang as telling a meeting on police ideological work that bourgeois liberalism had spread widely in recent years and could not be eliminated in a short time.

"A very small number of counter-revolutionaries have been very active, with an increase in reactionary slogans, notices, threatening letters, explosions and sabotage," he added. He gave no details.

## Exxon ready for pullout

POINT HELEN, Alaska (AP) — Thousands of oil-spattered workers hampered by worsening weather have only a few more days to clean crude oil off Alaska's petroleum-fouled shoreline before Exxon Corporation stops work for the season.

Exxon says it will pull out the last of its workers by Friday after treating more than 1,600 kilometres of shoreline tainted by the nation's worst oil spill. The company claimed Thursday only six kilometres remained to be treated, but state and federal agencies disagree with Exxon about how much has been cleaned and how well.

"Our position is that the weather is going to make us go regardless of what the numbers are, regardless of how much is left," said Exxon spokesman Henry Beathard.

Exxon said it chose Sept. 15 for the withdrawal of the last of its thousands of workers and hundreds of vessels to avoid increasingly poor weather and reduced hours of daylight.

Already, the first fall storm has raked Prince William Sound, where the tanker Exxon Valdez spilled nearly 42 million litres of crude oil March 24.

Weather permitting, the shore will be "environmentally stable," if not clean, by Exxon's deadline, the company said.

"I'm quite confident we are going to make it — if we can just get a few good days of weather," said beachmaster Warren Westad.

But the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Exxon dispute just about everything, including how many kilometres have been tre-

ated, how well the job has been done and whether Exxon plans to duck out after giving the shore a quick once-over.

The state has sued Exxon and a half-dozen other oil companies that get oil from Alaska's north slope by way of the Alyeska pipeline, claiming they were negligent in preventing and cleaning up the spill. Exxon Valdez was outboard from the pipeline terminal at Valdez when it ripped its bottom open on a reef.

Crews have removed gross contamination from many shorelines, but they remain oily. Exxon claims about 924,000 litres of oil and water emulsion have been recovered.

Exxon, the DEC and the coast guard all have different figures for virtually everything, in part because they use different criteria for measuring contamination.



A police launch helps move Vietnamese boat people from Hei Ling Chau island to make space for others from an island hit by cholera.

## Vietnamese evacuate cholera-hit island

HONG KONG (AP) — The government evacuated 2,500 Vietnamese boat people from an outlying island Sunday amid an outbreak of cholera there, officials reported. Earlier, the detention camp had been the scene of a riot.

Officials said the Vietnamese were moved from Tai A Chan Island aboard three landing craft and two boats to nearby Heiling Chau Island, a former leper colony.

Another 2,000 Vietnamese living in tents on Tai A Chan will be evacuated to Heiling Chau Monday, the officials said.

Officials said the evacuation began one day ahead of sched-

uled because of fears of typhoon Sarah heading for the British colony. The storm, bearing centre winds of 120 kilometres an hour, killed at least three people in the Philippines, officials said Sunday.

Late last month, a riot erupted on Tai A Chan when 1,000 Vietnamese hurled stones at police after a dispute over the distribution of rice, and police responded by firing teargas.

After the violence, the first case of cholera was detected on the island.

So far, 21 Vietnamese have been confirmed suffering from the disease. All were reported in satisfactory condition.

The government began to put newly arrived boat people on the island in June in an emergency measure to cope with increasing arrivals. Boat people usually stay there for about two weeks before they have inoculated and moved to other detention centres, but the first three cholera patients had stayed on the island for a month.

In another development, several thousand residents in the rural New Territories staged a demonstration Sunday, calling on the Hong Kong government to stop letting Vietnamese boat people land.

The protesters drove slowly

through the area in a convoy of about 300 cars and buses, and were joined by scores of cyclists. A fleet of several hundred fishing junks supported the protest by sailing along the coastline.

No trouble was reported during the three-hour demonstration, police said.

The government is building a camp for Vietnamese boat people at a country park in the New Territories. Hundreds of protesters staged a sit-in at the site last month for nine days before they were evicted by police.

More than 55,000 Vietnamese boat people are in camp in Hong Kong, awaiting resettlement or repatriation.

## Gorbachev hits out at conservatives, radicals

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has bounced back from holiday with a stinging attack on conservatives and radicals who he says are trying to block his reforms and spreading alarm.

In a speech on national television Saturday, he denounced opponents of his perestroika (reform) programme for suggesting that a coup or civil war was in the making.

He also said fundamental decisions would be taken "on the transformation of the Soviet federation."

Gorbachev's comments were sharply at odds with remarks by Kremlin conservatives — in particular Politburo member Yegor Ligachev — that nationalist unrest threatened to pull the country apart.

Notably, he did not condemn Baltic activists who have been attacked daily in the media for



Mikhail Gorbachev weeks and blasted by Ligachev and other conservatives in his absence.

Looking tanned, calm and self-confident, the Soviet president and Communist Party chief said he knew the nation's situation was not easy but said people must not get discouraged and must press ahead with economic and political reforms.

"The present situation is a tight knot of problems," he said, and listed several of them — consumer goods shortages, ethnic conflicts, and difficulties associated with straightening out "distortions" of the socialist system.

## Experts haggle over dinosaurs

ROME (R) — Rival American scientists will back away at rocks in central Italy this week in a geological showdown aimed at ending a bitter controversy over what killed the dinosaurs.

The teams of scientists, from Berkeley University in California and Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, begin a three-day expedition Monday to the Umbrian Apennines near the beautiful medieval hill town of Gubbio.

Referred by Dr. Robert Ginsburg from the University of Miami, they will gather rock samples acceptable to both sides in a decade-long dispute over whether the dinosaurs were wiped out 65 million years ago by the cataclysmic impact of a giant comet or the worst volcanic eruptions in the last 200 million years.

The research could also help scientists understand better the modern effects of "the greenhouse effect," depletion of the ozone layer, acid rain and the

result of a "nuclear winter." The area of the Apennine mountains near Gubbio is extremely rich in accessible geological evidence but the two groups dispute what this evidence proves.

The controversy began a decade ago when Dr. Walter Alvarez, leader of the Berkeley group and his late, Nobel-prize winning father found rich deposits of the metal iridium in a thin layer of sedimentary rock dating from the time the dinosaurs disappeared after about 130 million years on Earth.

Iridium is abundant in meteorites but rare in Earth rocks and so the Berkeley group believes the extinction of the dinosaurs coincided with the impact of a 600-metre wide comet.

They say the impact would have started massive fires and created clouds of dust and ash, blacking out the sun and lowering global temperatures.

## Boredom dominates bizarre glacier war

SIACHEN GLACIER, India (R) — A bizarre war being fought on the world's highest battlefield is noted more for boredom than bombs.

"Utterly miserable... and so boring, you have no idea," said an Indian soldier describing a three-month tour of duty at the 7,000-metre high front line on the Siachen glacier.

"This is a very silly war, complete rubbish," said a senior officer at the Indian army's base camp under the nose of the glacier at 3,700 metres. "But this is the army. We are told to fight, so we fight."

Even Major-General V.R. Raghavan, the army commander, jokes that an Indian mountaineer who spends 20 minutes atop a 7,000-metre mountain gets the country's highest award while a soldier who spends three months at this front in the middle of winter is rewarded with a bar of chocolate.

More than 3,000 Indian troops face a similar number of Pakistanis along the Saltoro Mountains that command the Siachen glacier, at 76 kilometres the second longest glacier in the world outside the polar regions.

The obscure war over the glacier, in the northeastern part of the disputed Kashmir region, began in 1984 when

Indian troops moved in.

Raghavan told foreign reporters during a recent trip to Siachen that territory claimed by India had started turning up in atlases as lying within Pakistan.

The commander argued that Indian claims to the Siachen region stemmed from agreements that established a line of control in Kashmir after two wars. Two-thirds of Kashmir is administered by India, and the rest by Pakistan.

The two countries began talks in June on the disengagement of their forces from the glacier. The talks centred on a plan to withdraw troops to positions held earlier without affecting claims to the Siachen territory, which was left undemarcated in a U.N.-sponsored 1949 ceasefire agreement covering most of Kashmir.

"The sooner they get it done the better," said one soldier of two rounds of talks that have so far failed to determine what those positions were. "Get us out of here before winter."

His chances appear slim with winter approaching rapidly.

"As you can see everybody here is quite dug in for another winter," Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto told reporters during a trip to Siachen last month shortly after the second round of abor-

tive talks.

### 'Housework'

So it will be back to temperatures down to minus 50 degrees Centigrade at the highest Indian posts, where soldiers use howitzers and stoves to keep their guns from freezing up during the day and sleep with them at night.

Back to routine shovelling so they are not buried alive by snowfalls, maintaining rope lines so patrols can move around and digging more caves under six metres of ice as protection against shells.

Back to retrieving supplies, including oxygen, dropped by parachute, trying to fight off frostbite.

"Housework" one officer called it, to fight off the excruciating boredom. "Everything in this war happens very slowly. It is quite unbelievably boring most of the time."

Remote though it is, the Siachen glacier is strategically important with its valley leading into Indian Kashmir.

Occasionally, one side will mount an operation to occupy a lump of rock and ice that would give it an advantage over the other and fighting flares up.

The last time was in April and May, when the Indians tried to occupy a point they thought a Pakistani objective.

Commanders met after heavy fighting and agreed to leave it empty.

That was only the second time commanders had met, Indian officers said. The first was in 1987, when Pakistani bodies were handed back after a bloody battle for one of the three passes into the Siachen glacier's valley.

Mostly, the war consists of artillery exchanges, with the Indians using some of the Bofors guns the government bought from Sweden for \$1.3 billion, a deal which involved Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's administration in repeated charges of corruption.

Raghavan said all the initiative lay with his troops, who looked down on Pakistani positions and could correctly aim, while Pakistani artillery fired blind over sharp, high ridges.

"They are punishable by us whenever necessary," he said. Other officers said that, like everything else about the war, it wasn't as easy as that.

"The thin air makes a difference to trajectory and distance, so does the temperature. And (weather) conditions are never the same twice, so the data you gained yesterday is no use today."

He wouldn't admit Indian artillery rarely hit anything, but said: "It is very, very difficult."

## COLUMN

### Khashoggi happy despite trial

NEW YORK (AP) — Saudi arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi, his usual globe-hopping curtailed by federal authorities, says he nonetheless is happy with awaiting trial on obstruction of justice and mail fraud charges. "Everything is marvelous, just great," Khashoggi, free on \$10-million bail, told an Israeli reporter for a rare interview carried by the New York Post. "People come up and shake my hand. Everybody in the street recognises me. 'Everybody is pleased to meet me.' When I'm out, they won't even let me pay for meals. There is no need to worry about me." Under his bail agreement, Khashoggi must stay in Manhattan and wears an electronic ankle bracelet to keep federal officials apprised of his whereabouts. Khashoggi allowed the reporter to visit his \$26-million apartment in the Olympic tower on Manhattan's Ritz Fifth Avenue. Khashoggi is charged with helping former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos and his wife Imelda plunder the Philippine treasury. He faces up to five years in jail and \$250,000 fine on each of the two charges.

### Scientist worried about sex in space

LONDON (R) — A British scientist is worried about lack of research on sex in space and wants more experiments there. Roy Levin, a consultant at Sheffield University's Institute of Space Biomedicine, has written a discussion paper on the subject for the British Interplanetary Society Journal. "We must now plan for the long-term occupancy of space and, to do so, we must grasp the nettle of human sexuality in space," he told the Sunday Express newspaper. He wants the 1991 Anglo-Soviet Juno mission to carry out sperm count tests. He also wants to look into the toll space travel takes on sexual performance. Levin says in his paper that since Soviet spaceman Yuri Gagarin's single Earth orbit, in 1961, 200 U.S. and Soviet crew, including women, have clocked up about 2,400 days in space. "Despite that our knowledge about the effects of space travel on the human reproductive system and human sexuality is sparse, bordering on the non-existent."

### La Toya denies she married manager

RENO, Nevada (AP) — Singer La Toya Jackson has denied she married her manager and said someone else must have signed her name to wedding documents. "It could have been an impostor," Jackson said Thursday by telephone. "It's totally untrue that I got married. I'm not ready for marriage yet. I'm too involved in my career right now." But Washoe County clerk Judi Bailey Thursday produced a marriage license bought Tuesday by La Toya Jackson, 33, and Jack Gordon, 50, and said the couple went through a legal wedding ceremony that night. "They had to show their driver's licenses and tell the clerk all kinds of information in order to prove who they were," Bailey said. "They even had to know their mother's maiden name and where she was born. And where their father was born." Bailey said the couple brought Antonio Rossi to witness the marriage ceremony, but Jackson said she does not know the man. "I was surprised when I heard about it," Jackson said of her reported wedding. Jackson, the sister of pop star Michael Jackson, had been in Reno to perform at a casino.

### Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	12	54	24 75 Clear
ATHENS	20	68	28 84 Cloudy
BAIRN	28	84	43 102 Clear
BANGKOK	25	77	82 90 Clear
Buenos Aires	67	45	19 80 Clear
Cairo	21	70	32 80 Clear
CHICAGO	20	68	30 87 Rain
COLOMBO	14	67	18 64 Clear
COPENHAGEN	25	77	82 90 Clear
FRANKFURT	10	50	25 77 Clear
GENEVA	68	48	34 75 Cloudy
HONG KONG	27	81	24 80 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	15	59	24 75 Cloudy
LONDON	14	57	15 59 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	15	60	25 80 Clear
MADRID	18	65	21 70 Cloudy
MECCA	28	84	43 100 Clear
MONTREAL	17	63	29 82 Cloudy
MOSCOW	06	43	16 68 Clear
NEW DELHI	28	79	38 97 Clear
NEW YORK	18	61	27 81 Clear
PARIS	14	57	27 81 Clear
ROME	17	65	25 81 Rain
SYDNEY	13	25	35 82 Clear
TOKYO	25	77	31 88 Clear
VIENNA	08	48	21 70 Clear